12/17/2014	U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Announces $598 Million in Additional Loans for Phase Two Silver Line to Dulles
12/9/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Announces $5 Million to Improve Transit Options for American Indians, Alaska Natives on Tribal Lands
11/21/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Announces Voluntary Examination of the Safety of Chicago Transit Authority Operations
11/17/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Groundbreaking of First Bus Rapid Transit System in Jacksonville
11/9/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Opening of Landmark Fulton Center Transit Station in Lower Manhattan
11/8/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Announces $81 Million to Bring Bus Rapid Transit Service to East Bay Area
11/7/2014	Acting Federal Transit Administrator McMillan Attends Groundbreaking of L.A. Purple Line Extension
10/20/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Opening of New Transit Center, Improving Transit Options in Rochester
9/30/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Groundbreaking of Los Angeles Regional Connector, Improving Transit Efficiency
9/25/2014	U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Announces $100 Million in Grants to Connect More Americans with Jobs, Ladders of Opportunity
9/22/2014	Transportation Secretary Foxx Announces Nearly $3.6 Billion to Make Transit Systems More Resilient in New York, New Jersey, and Beyond
9/15/2014	U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Announces $12.2 Million in TIGER Funds for Detroit M-1 Rail Project
9/15/2014	U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Announces $14.9 Million in TIGER Funds for Omaha Bus Rapid Transit
9/13/2014	U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Announces $24.9 Million in TIGER Funds for Richmond Bus Rapid Transit
9/13/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Announces $22 Million in TIGER Funds for Rosa Parks Station and Eastside Access Improvements
9/12/2014	U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Announces $20 Million in TIGER Funds for MBTA Ruggles Station
9/12/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Announces $10.3 Million in TIGER Funds for St. Louis Light Rail Corridor Improvements
8/28/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Opening of New Cleveland Transit Station
8/25/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Opening of Silver Line Bus Rapid Transit System in Grand Rapids, Michigan
8/7/2014	Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx Awards $35 Million to Help Expand Capacity, Improve Service of Chicago’s L
7/26/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Opening of Silver Line, Major Expansion of Metrorail Service in the Nation’s Capital
7/25/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Grand Opening of Tucson Streetcar, Further Expanding Regional Transit Choices
7/9/2014	Federal Transit Administration Celebrates 50th Anniversary
6/14/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Opening of Central Corridor Light Rail Line in St. Paul-Minneapolis Region
6/4/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Announces the Availability of $100 Million for New

	Ladders of Opportunity Initiative to Connect More Americans with Jobs
6/2/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Awards $123.5 Million to Improve Passenger Ferry Services, Ferry Boats and Terminals
5/30/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Awards $234 Million to Transit Agencies in New York, New Jersey for Ongoing Hurricane Sandy Recovery Efforts
5/28/2014	FTA Celebrates the Opening of New Island Transit Facilities on Whidbey Island, Washington
5/28/2014	FTA Celebrates Opening of Transit Field Station in Minneapolis, Minnesota
5/21/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates $2.1 Billion in Grant and Loan Funds to Extend Subway Service in West Los Angeles
5/10/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Opening of New Bus Rapid Transit Service in Fort Collins
5/9/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Grand Opening of Denver Union Station
4/30/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Opening of New SunRail Commuter Rail Line, Expanding Transit Service in Central Florida
4/17/2014	Federal Transit Administration Celebrates Ribbon-cutting on a Modernized Bus Maintenance Facility in Clarksdale, Mississippi
4/16/2014	U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Calls for Transportation Investment During Visit to Birmingham Intermodal Facility
4/16/2014	U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Calls for Transportation Funding During Tour of NABI Bus Manufacturing Facility
4/16/2014	U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Calls for Transportation Investment During Atlanta BeltLine Visit
4/14/2014	Federal Transit Administration Celebrates Opening of the Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center in Mansfield, Connecticut
4/7/2014	Federal Transit Administration Celebrates Opening of Montaño Transit Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico
3/24/2014	Federal Transit Administration Celebrates Opening of New Regional Transportation Center in Stockton, California
3/18/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Provides $30 Million to Improve Transit Options for American Indians, Alaska Natives on Tribal Lands
3/5/2014	U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Recommends $2.5 Billion to Expand Transit Options that Improve Access to Jobs and Opportunities
2/28/2014	New Department of Transportation Report on Highway, Transit Conditions Points to Need for More Investment
2/20/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates $670 Million Grant Agreement and $160 Million TIFIA Loan to Improve Light Rail Connections in Greater Los Angeles
1/31/2014	U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Visits Orlando BRT Project, Highlights Public Transportation’s Role in Strengthening Access to Jobs, Opportunities
1/27/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Opening of Major New Bus Rapid Transit Service in Austin, Texas
1/24/2014	Federal Transit Administration Celebrates Opening of Maintenance Facility To Improve Transit Service for Tribal Members, Residents in East Mississippi
1/24/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Awards $886 Million to New York MTA for Ongoing Hurricane Sandy Recovery Efforts
1/21/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Groundbreaking of Crenshaw/LAX Light Rail Line to Improve Transit Options in Los Angeles

1/15/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Announces Final Rule to Streamline Environmental Reviews for Transit, Highway Projects
1/9/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Announces Availability of $24.9 Million to Put More Zero-Emission Buses into Service Across America
1/6/2014	U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Arrival of Advanced Rail Cars to Enhance Safety, Reliability on the D.C. Metrorail System

U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Arrival of Advanced Rail Cars to Enhance Safety, Reliability on the D.C. Metrorail System

1/6/2014
Contact: Amy Bernstein
202-366-0706

GREENBELT, Md. – The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today celebrated the arrival of the first new state-of-the-art rail car prototypes for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's (WMATA) Metrorail system. The four new cars will belong to a fleet of more than 500 new rail cars, all made in the United States, which are designed to provide a safer, more comfortable ride for millions of passengers and expand the Metrorail system's capacity overall. FTA provided more than $100 million toward the purchase.

"Safety is always our highest priority, and WMATA's new fleet of rail cars are specifically designed to help keep hundreds of thousands of daily riders as safe as possible as they travel to work, school, a doctor's appointment, and other destinations," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "It is critical that we continue to support a safe, efficient rail transit network that enables the region to continue growing while reducing congestion, improving air quality, and providing reliable access to jobs."

The new 7000-series rail cars will be deployed throughout Metrorail's entire fleet, including on the new Silver Line as it expands to serve Dulles International Airport. These rail cars will replace all 300 of the Metrorail

1000-series cars that have been in service for 40 years—fulfilling a key safety recommendation from the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) following the fatal Metrorail accident at Fort Totten Station in June 2009, which involved some of these cars. The WMATA accident, following other incidents in Chicago, Boston, and elsewhere, spurred the Obama Administration to seek and ultimately secure new federal safety oversight authority.

"The time has come to retire the oldest rail cars in the Metrorail fleet and replace them with a new generation of far more crashworthy vehicles," said FTA Administrator Peter Rogoff. "Modernizing the Metrorail system is essential to making it both safer and more reliable — and that's especially important as WMATA continues to expand through projects like the Silver Line."

Administrator Rogoff participated in a tour of the four new 7000-series rail cars at Metrorail's Greenbelt Station along with Maryland Senators Barbara Mikulski and Benjamin Cardin; U.S. Representatives Steny Hoyer, Donna Edwards, and Eleanor Holmes Norton; NTSB Chairman Deborah Hersman; and other officials.

The U.S. Department of Transportation estimates that WMATA faces an estimated $4.2 billion backlog in capital investments needed to bring its entire system, including rail and transit buses, into a state of good repair. WMATA has embarked on an ambitious six-year, $5 billion capital improvement program to modernize its entire system.

FTA has provided $44.8 million in funding specifically to help fund the replacement of the 1000-series rail cars. In addition, FTA has committed $58.3 million for 64 new rail cars through the Capital Investment Grant Program (New Starts), as part of a $900 million construction grant agreement with the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority for Phase 1 of the Metrorail Silver Line extension project.

The new cars must still undergo operational testing on local tracks and the initial batch is expected to begin serving riders in late 2014.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Announces Availability of $24.9 Million to Put More Zero-Emission Buses into Service Across America

1/9/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
202-366-3669

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today announced the availability of $24.9 million through its brand new Low or No Emission Vehicle Deployment Program (LoNo) that will put a new generation of advanced, non-polluting transit buses on the road in communities nationwide. The funds are intended to encourage more widespread adoption of reliable "green energy" buses into transit fleets.

"The LoNo program will make a real difference in people's lives by helping them get to work or school while letting them breathe clean air," said Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "We are proud to initiate a new program that reflects the Obama Administration's commitment to reducing our nation's dependence on oil while developing more sustainable sources of energy here at home."

The FTA's Low or No Emission Vehicle Deployment Program was established under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21). It focuses on commercializing the cleanest and most energy-efficient U.S.-made transit buses to help reduce emissions like carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide. The LoNo program builds on the success of FTA's National Fuel Cell Bus Program, which invested in the research, development and testing of alternative fuels and related equipment, such as electric charging stations, for the transit industry. This program successfully committed $90 million over seven years for innovative research, demonstration, and deployment projects to reduce the cost of fuel cells for transit use. The program received its final funding in FY2013.

"Federal investments in green energy and related technologies have been a tremendous catalyst for America's innovators and domestic manufacturers as they find new ways to power public transportation for the future," said FTA Administrator Peter Rogoff. "We are excited to help improve the transit riders' experience by bringing more of the cleanest and greenest buses available to their cities and towns—and to spur new jobs in a growing industry."

FTA will award the LoNo funds on a competitive basis to transit agencies and state transportation departments working either independently or jointly with bus manufacturers already making low- and zero-emission buses. Priority will be given to proposals that:

- Seek to fund the incremental difference between a standard bus and a LoNo vehicle, as a way to stretch procurement dollars farther;
- Incorporate the highest level of U.S.-made content, exceeding Buy America's current 60 percent threshold; and
- Demonstrate a long-term commitment to expanding LoNo fleets beyond what these program funds support, including the use of Federal formula funding.

Of the $24.9 million available in LoNo grant funds, $21.6 million is for buses and $3.3 million to support facilities and related equipment. Transit agencies may use a portion of their annual FTA formula funds to purchase additional vehicles.

In addition to their environmental benefits, LoNo transit buses will, in the long run, help transit agencies save money on fuel and maintenance costs. According to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, zero-emission buses can achieve more than double the fuel economy of buses running on diesel and other fuels.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Announces Final Rule to Streamline Environmental Reviews for Transit, Highway Projects

1/15/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
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WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation announced a final rule this week that will significantly cut red tape, while achieving better environmental outcomes, for certain transit and highway projects under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and spur them towards completion more quickly than in years past. The new rule responds to President Obama's call for federal agencies to put people first by streamlining and improving government services wherever possible.

"Time is money, and by cutting the time it takes to manage environmental reviews, we can help save communities money that they can put toward critical transportation projects," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "This is just one example of the Obama Administration's commitment to make it easier for communities across the country to get the transportation options they need to reduce congestion and improve access to work, school, and other destinations."

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) anticipate that the new rule, issued jointly, will expedite the delivery of certain transit and highway projects—including projects to be built within an existing right-of-way where transportation already exists or projects that receive less than $5 million of federal funding. The new rule encourages project sponsors and state and regional transportation authorities to build highway and transit projects with fewer impacts to reap the benefits of the quicker, simpler process, which requires less documentation for qualified projects.

"Every transportation project is unique, and not all projects require the same rigorous environmental review process that is necessary for much larger projects," said FTA Administrator Peter Rogoff. "These common-sense changes will help balance responsible environmental stewardship with delivering transportation solutions to communities more quickly—in some cases shaving more than a year off of the environmental review process."

The final rule on "Environmental Impact and Related Procedures" was

published in the Federal Register earlier this week. The rulemaking was required as part of Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21), the two-year transportation authorization bill signed by President Obama in July 2012.

"This change will have a positive impact on the vast majority of highway projects by further streamlining the review process, which will save time, money and help get projects under construction more quickly," said FHWA Deputy Administrator Greg Nadeau.

Both agencies have taken a number of steps during the past year to cut red tape and bureaucracy to help get critical projects under construction more quickly without compromising a stringent project review process.

In January 2013, FTA announced a streamlined approach for its Major Capital Investment (New Starts/Small Starts) Grant Program. In addition, FTA recently unveiled a new STOPS (Simplified Trips-on-Project Software) tool that, for some communities, may reduce from two years to two weeks the time needed for project sponsors to develop ridership forecasts on planned projects. This new tool may save taxpayers in communities that do not currently have travel forecasting tools as much as $1 million.

Last September, FHWA launched "e-NEPA," an online collaboration tool which is expected to greatly reduce the time needed to complete the comprehensive environmental review process for federally funded highway projects.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Groundbreaking of Crenshaw/LAX Light Rail Line to Improve Transit Options in Los Angeles

DOT's Innovative TIFIA Program Provided $545.9 Million Loan for the Project

1/21/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
202-366-3669

LOS ANGELES – U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx today participated in a groundbreaking for a new light rail transit line along the Crenshaw corridor that will improve transit options and connect riders to existing transit services throughout the Los Angeles region. Secretary Foxx was joined by representatives from the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA), as well as Senator Barbara Boxer, U.S. Representatives Karen Bass and Maxine Waters, Mayor Eric Garcetti, and other state and local officials.

"Bringing light rail to this community will spur local economic development and make it easier than ever for residents to access downtown Los Angeles and beyond," Secretary Foxx said. "The Obama Administration is committed to investing in good transportation projects like the Crenshaw/LAX line to create ladders of opportunity for millions of Americans, and we are proud to help make this project possible with a $545 million loan."

The Department's Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) program provided a $545.9 million loan toward the $2.058 billion Crenshaw/LAX light rail extension. The project also is expected to receive approximately $130 million in other DOT and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds. Remaining funds are being provided by state and local sources.

"The Federal Transit Administration is proud to join with the City of Los Angeles and the neighboring communities to significantly improve transportation options in one of the most congested regions in the nation," said Federal Transit Administrator Peter Rogoff. "This project is a huge win for thousands of hard-working families and seniors living in Crenshaw who depend on public transportation every day to get to work, school, medical appointments and elsewhere."

The Crenshaw/LAX transit corridor project consists of a new 8.5-mile light rail line, eight new transit stations, and three park and ride facilities. The line will connect existing rail service on the Metro Green Line with the Metro Exposition Line, making it easier for residents, seniors and other riders to reach downtown Los Angeles, the Westside, South Bay and the cities of Inglewood, Hawthorne and El Segundo. The project also includes a new transit vehicle maintenance and storage facility.

In addition to the Crenshaw/LAX light rail project, the FTA is advancing two other major transit expansion projects in the Los Angeles area: the Regional Connector and the Westside Subway Extension, which are seeking a combined federal transit investment of nearly $2 billion toward the $4.2 billion total cost of the two projects. Both projects are in line to receive funding through FTA's Major Capital Investment (New Starts/Small Starts) Grant Program. These projects have also received approval for loans totaling approximately $1 billion through the Department's TIFIA program.

The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) transformed the TIFIA credit program into one of the largest transportation infrastructure loan programs in history, making up to $17 billion available in credit assistance for critical infrastructure projects.

The TIFIA program is designed to fill market gaps and leverage substantial non-federal investments. Each dollar of federal funding can provide up to $10 in TIFIA credit assistance and support up to $30 in transportation infrastructure investment. Since its launch, the TIFIA program has helped 39 projects turn over $14.7 billion in U.S. Department of Transportation assistance into more than $55 billion in infrastructure investment across America.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Awards $886 Million to New York MTA for Ongoing Hurricane Sandy Recovery Efforts

1/24/2014
Contact: Amy Bernstein
202-366-0706

WASHINGTON – U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx and Federal Transit Administrator Peter Rogoff today awarded approximately $886 million to help the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) continue rebuilding and replacing transportation equipment and facilities damaged or destroyed by Hurricane Sandy, which triggered the worst transit disaster in U.S. history. The announcement was made during a conference call with New York officials.

"The U.S. Department of Transportation has worked alongside the New York MTA since Hurricane Sandy made landfall to help the nation's busiest transit network recover as quickly as possible," said Secretary Foxx. "The funds we are providing today will go a long way to help the MTA continue clearing debris from tunnels, rebuilding stations, and replacing electrical systems damaged by flooding, giving transit riders a transit system that is stronger than ever before."

The funds reimburse the MTA for work that is already under way and also enable future projects to be completed. Today's announcement allows MTA to begin drawing down an additional $886 million from the $3.8 billion FTA had allocated to the MTA for Sandy-related work.

�One of our highest priorities in the wake of this record-breaking storm is to ensure that the MTA is able to restore and protect a public transportation network that operates as the central nervous system for New York City and beyond,� said Administrator Rogoff. �We will make sure that taxpayer dollars are well spent, and that no one is asked to pay to restore the same transit infrastructure when the next big storm hits.�

MTA will use the funds to complete hundreds of projects in the following categories:

- **Rail Support and Equipment Facilities Repair:** $535 million for critical repairs primarily to three damaged under-river tunnels�Greenpoint, Montague, and Steinway.
- **Electrical and Power Distribution Repair:** $138.9 million to restore damaged substations and power infrastructure for the Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) and Metro-North Railroad.
- **Signal and Communication Repair:** $88.1 million to repair essential communications and signal equipment for Metro-North (system-wide) and LIRR�s Long Beach Branch and Westside storage yard.
- **Transitway Line Restoration:** $91.5 million to restore damaged rights of way on the Metro-North Harlem, Hudson, and New Haven Lines; and for design services to make long-term repairs to damaged assets.
- **Rail Stations, Stops, and Terminals:** $32 million to repair to stations, employee facilities, and fare collection equipment for both rail and bus facilities.

For all transit agencies eligible to receive Hurricane Sandy aid, FTA has allocated approximately 55 percent of the $10.35 billion available through the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 after a nearly $545 million cut due to sequestration. Approximately $4 billion worth of work is already under way.

Separately, on December 23, 2013, FTA�announced the availability of $3 billion in competitive funding for resiliency projects that will, first and foremost, reinforce the existing critical infrastructure necessary to support public transportation systems damaged by Hurricane Sandy. These funds will be awarded to advance the best regionally coordinated projects so that taxpayers are not asked to repair the same infrastructure a second and third time.

Additional information about FTA�s Hurricane Sandy aid and the agency�s Emergency Relief Program, through which these funds are administered, is available at http://www.fta.dot.gov/about/15138.html.

###

Federal Transit Administration Celebrates Opening of Maintenance Facility To Improve Transit Service for Tribal Members, Residents in East Mississippi

1/24/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
202-366-3669

CHOCTAW, Miss. – The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today celebrated the opening of the new Choctaw Regional Maintenance Facility, which will improve the maintenance and operations of Choctaw Transit's fleet of 40 vehicles and ensure reliable transit service for tribal members and other residents in East Mississippi. FTA provided approximately $2.4 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds toward the $2.5 million facility. Remaining funds were provided by Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT).

"The Obama Administration is committed to providing Americans with more "ladders of opportunity" – transportation options that connect residents to jobs and greater economic opportunities," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "This new transit facility will ensure that thousands of local Choctaw residents will continue to have a reliable ride to get to work, school, medical appointments and elsewhere."

Choctaw Transit is operated by the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians and serves approximately 10,000 members of the tribe, as well as individuals in the surrounding communities. Service is provided to East Central Community College in Decatur and Meridian Community College, as well as other destinations in Meridian, Jackson and neighboring counties.

"Access to affordable public transit is a lifeline for hard-working families, students and seniors in rural communities across the country," said FTA Deputy Administrator Therese McMillan. "We are proud to invest in this new facility to improve mobility for members of the Choctaw tribe and other residents traveling to East Central and Meridian community colleges, and other destinations in East Mississippi."

FTA Regional Administrator Yvette Taylor joined Tribal Chief Phyliss Anderson and other MDOT officials at a ribbon cutting event.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Opening of Major New Bus Rapid Transit Service in Austin, Texas

1/27/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
202-366-3669

AUSTIN, TEXAS – The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today celebrated the grand opening of the first of two new MetroRapid bus rapid transit (BRT) lines, which connect several neighborhoods in Austin with major business, medical, education, and entertainment hubs along a 21-mile corridor. The opening ceremony of the Route 801 BRT line was attended by FTA Regional Administrator Robert Patrick, Mayor Lee Leffingwell, and state and local officials.

"Austin's new BRT line will help reduce congestion and get residents where they need to go more efficiently throughout the city," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "The Obama Administration is committed to investing in more projects like this that provide ladders of opportunity for thousands of residents seeking fast, reliable access to work, school, and other destinations."

The new MetroRapid BRT service opening today serves Route 801 along North Lamar Boulevard and South Congress Avenue. A second, intersecting BRT route to the West will serve Route 803 along Burnet Road and South Lamar Boulevard; it is scheduled to open later this year. Together, the routes provide 77 stations, with several shared stops through downtown

Austin and near the University of Texas. The lines also connect with existing MetroRail and MetroBus stations. Both are operated by Capital Metro, which expects the new bus routes to shave roughly 10 percent to 20 percent off trip times compared to regular bus service.

"The MetroRapid BRT system will make an enormous difference in the commuting options available to Austin-area residents by bringing transit to the neighborhoods with the densest, highest ridership in Capital Metro's entire service area," said FTA Deputy Administrator Therese McMillan. "This is a great example of BRT done right, with new buses equipped with Wi-Fi, and more green lights along the way. It all adds up to a more efficient, comfortable ride for thousands of commuters, seniors, and students."

FTA has committed $38 million to Capital Metro for both lines—about 80 percent of the total $47.6 million project—through its Capital Investment (Small Starts) Grant Program. The remainder was funded by state and local sources. Capital Metro expects to see 20,000 daily boardings along Route 801 within the first two years of operation. FTA Administrator Rogoff attended the grant signing ceremony in Austin with Mayor Leffingwell and Capital Metro officials in April 2012.

###

U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Visits Orlando BRT Project, Highlights Public Transportation's Role in Strengthening Access to Jobs, Opportunities

1/31/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
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ORLANDO, Fla. – U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx today toured the nearly completed East-West Circulator Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project in downtown Orlando, a project that reflects how transportation can help create the type of economic opportunities President Obama called for in his State of the Union address this week. The BRT project will offer free transportation to thousands of hard-working families who need reliable access to Orlando's major employers, schools, health care facilities and other services. Secretary Foxx was joined by U.S. Representatives Corinne Brown and Alan Grayson, along with other state and local officials.

"In his State of the Union Address this week, President Obama called on us to build new ladders of opportunity to help more families join America's middle class and to give them a shot at creating a better life for their children," said Secretary Foxx. "This project is a great example of how Orlando's growing network of transit buses will connect families from communities like Thornton Park and Parramore with access to jobs, education and basic necessities like the grocery store."

The new East-West BRT line, scheduled to open this spring, will connect area residents with several employers, like the Federal Courthouse and the Orange County Health Department, as well as such attractions as the Dr. Phillips Performing Arts Center, under construction, the Amway sports center, and a new soccer stadium.

"We applaud Orlando's vision and support for an efficient, reliable and connected transportation network that gives thousands of hard-working families greater access to jobs and other opportunities," said Deputy Federal Transit Administrator Therese McMillan. "This new bus line, along with the new SunRail commuter line that's opening soon, will make a huge difference for all the men and women, from stage hands to cleaning crews, who work hard to make Orlando so successful."

The U.S. Department of Transportation is providing approximately $8 million in Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds toward the $10 million East-West BRT project. In addition, the Department has committed $178.6 million in FTA New Starts funding for construction of the first phase of the SunRail commuter rail project, and $13 million in Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) funding for construction of a third BRT line to link the Parramore neighborhood—one of Orlando's lowest-income neighborhoods—to other rapid bus and commuter rail service. Construction of the Parramore BRT line is expected to begin this spring.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates $670 Million Grant Agreement and $160 Million TIFIA Loan to Improve Light Rail Connections in Greater Los Angeles

2/20/2014
Contact: Amy Bernstein
202-366-0706

LOS ANGELES – The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today celebrated the signing of a $670 million construction grant agreement to help build the Regional Connector light rail transit line in the heart of downtown Los Angeles. The two-mile rail segment will connect three existing transit lines, offering thousands of area residents more efficient and convenient access to jobs, education, and other ladders of opportunity. FTA Deputy Administrator Therese McMillan took part in the signing event along with Senator Dianne Feinstein, Congressman Xavier Becerra, Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard, Mayor Eric Garcetti, and other state and local officials.

"LA's Regional Connector will help make this city and region a better place for tens of thousands of Angelenos by ensuring that public transit not only works for everyone, but that it works better than ever," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "This Administration is committed to ensuring that every American has access to ladders of opportunity that lead to success—and access to public transportation is essential to making that happen."

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) will use FTA's grant funds to build an underground connection between the existing Metro Gold line in Little Tokyo and the Exposition and Blue light rail lines, which currently terminate at Flower and 7th Streets. The grant also includes four new light rail vehicles to augment the existing fleet. The project will reconfigure Metro's three existing LRT lines into two lines, one primarily running north to south, and one east to west. The project reconfiguration will eliminate the need for riders to make cumbersome transfers from light rail to the Metro Red or Purple Line subway system, and then back onto light rail, to reach their destinations.

"The Regional Connector will improve the quality of LA's light rail service by offering a one-seat ride that cuts travel times from Long Beach to Azusa and from East Los Angeles and the San Gabriel Valley to Santa Monica," said FTA Deputy Administrator McMillan. "The traffic gridlock of Los Angeles has been the roadblock for many residents who need better, more reliable access to the jobs and educational opportunities offered across the metropolitan area, which is why we are proud to be a partner in the greater transit vision for the future of the Los Angeles region."

LACMTA estimates the Regional Connector will open in 2020 and initially handle roughly 60,000 trips or more each weekday. In addition to the $670 million that FTA has committed to the project through its Capital Investment Grant (New Starts) Program, LACMTA will receive $64 million in other U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) funds and a loan of up to $160 million from the DOT's Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovative Action (TIFIA) loan program. The remainder of the roughly $1.4 billion project will be funded with state and local resources.

In addition to the Regional Connector, the FTA is advancing two other major transit expansion projects in the Los Angeles metropolitan area: the Crenshaw/LAX light rail transit corridor project and Section I of the Westside Purple Line Extension. The $2 billion Crenshaw project, which broke ground in January, is funded in part with a $545.9 million TIFIA loan and approximately $130 million in other FTA and DOT funds. DOT has approved a TIFIA loan of up to $856 million for the Westside project, which is also in line to receive funding through FTA's Capital Investment Grant Program later this year.

###

New Department of Transportation Report on Highway, Transit Conditions Points to Need for More Investment

2/28/2014

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FTA Contact: Angela Gates • 202-366-3669

WASHINGTON • U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx today announced that a new report on the state of America's transportation infrastructure, *2013 Status of the Nation's Highways, Bridges and Transit: Conditions and Performance*, confirms that more investment is needed to maintain and improve the nation's highway and transit systems. Secretary Foxx has highlighted the need for transportation investment in a series of speeches that take aim at America•s infrastructure deficit and identify ways to use innovation and improved planning to stretch transportation dollars as effectively and efficiently as possible.

•We have an infrastructure deficit in this country, and we need to create more jobs • improving our roads, bridges, and transit systems will provide help on both fronts,• Secretary Foxx said. •As the President said in his State of the Union address last month, first-class infrastructure creates first-class jobs. This report shows the difference we made thanks to the Administration•s unprecedented investment under the Recovery Act, but it•s also clear that much more remains to be done.•

The Department of Transportation's *Conditions and Performance* report, based on 2010 data, estimates all levels of government would need to spend between $123.7 billion and $145.9 billion per year to both maintain and improve the condition of roads and bridges alone. In 2010, federal, State and local governments combined spent $100.2 billion on this infrastructure, including $11.9 billion in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act dollars.

The report also indicates that as much as $24.5 billion is needed per year to improve the condition of transit rail and bus systems. In 2010, total spending to maintain and expand transit systems was $16.5 billion • a spending level also boosted temporarily by Recovery Act dollars.

•The Recovery Act contributed to the improved quality of our highways,• Federal Highway Deputy Administrator Greg Nadeau said. •It makes a good case for more investment - every dollar produces results for the American people.•

According to the report, travel on pavements with good ride quality rose from 46.4 percent in 2008 to 50.6 percent in 2010. A major factor in this increase was the one-time funding provided under the Recovery Act, a large share of which was directed toward pavement resurfacing. This 4.2 percent increase represents the highest two-year jump ever since the metric was first used in 1995. While the report shows overall pavement and bridge conditions have improved in many areas, the improvements have not been uniform across the system.

The report also finds that the nation's state of good repair and preventive maintenance backlog for transit is at an all-time high of $86 billion, and that it is growing by an estimated $2.5 billion each year. An additional $8.2 billion over current spending levels from all levels of government is needed annually to spend down the current backlog over the next 20 years. While some transit systems are still operating rail cars that are over 30 years old, the report finds that over three-quarters of the need for repairs affects other facets of our transit systems, such as rail stations, trestles, and power substations. Meanwhile, State and local governments are shouldering more than half the cost of annual investments to preserve and grow the nation's transit systems.

"The United States cannot grow and compete in the 21st century without a modern public transportation infrastructure that connects citizens, their communities, and their employers with opportunities to succeed and prosper," said Deputy Federal Transit Administrator Therese McMillan. "Making a down payment on this substantial backlog is critical to not falling farther behind in our commitment to modernize the transportation infrastructure that tens of millions of riders depend on every day."

The investment estimates for roads and bridges are based on ranges, which is new to the 2013 report. The higher ends are based on state-provided forecasts, which were used in past reports - they average out to annual growth of 1.85 percent per year. The lower ends presume vehicle miles traveled (VMT) will grow at an average annual rate of 1.36 percent per year, which is consistent with the average annual growth in the past 15 years.

Conditions and Performance is a biennial report to Congress that provides information on the physical and operating characteristics of the highway, bridge and transit components of the nation's surface transportation system.

###

U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Recommends $2.5 Billion to Expand Transit Options that Improve Access to Jobs and Opportunities

3/5/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
202-366-3669

WASHINGTON – U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx today highlighted $2.5 billion recommended in President Obama's Fiscal Year 2015 budget to advance the construction or completion of 26 rail, bus rapid transit (BRT), and streetcar projects in 16 states. These projects, competitively funded through the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Capital Investment Grant Program (CIG), will create or sustain thousands of good construction-related jobs and help communities expand transportation choices that offer new ladders of opportunity for hard-working families.

"President Obama has laid out a bold vision for investing in 21st century transportation infrastructure that removes barriers to success for millions of Americans while strengthening our nation's economy today and in the future," said Secretary Foxx. "We are committed to ensuring that every American has access to the ladders of opportunity that lead to success – and access to public transportation is essential to making that happen."

The President's budget includes funding recommendations for eight brand new projects that will connect thousands of residents in cities and

communities across the country with jobs and other opportunities. These include:

- The Dyer Avenue BRT in El Paso, Texas, which serves thousands of U.S. service men and women stationed at the U.S. Army Base at Ft. Bliss, connects these and other riders with downtown El Paso, and helps to shorten travel times by eliminating transfers for many riders who live and work in the area's low-income neighborhoods.
- The East-West Connector BRT in Nashville, Tenn., known as the Amp, which will re-connect the city's east and west sides, helping residents of Five Points and other neighborhoods to more easily reach jobs, education, and medical care.
- The Green Line Extension outside Boston, MA, which will bring rail service to thousands of commuters in Medford and Somerville, who currently lack direct access to rail transit.

"Transit ridership across the United States is at its highest level in five decades, thanks in part to FTA's successful partnerships with communities committed to expanding local transportation choices that help to revitalize neighborhoods, reduce congestion, and connect residents with jobs, education, health care, and other vital services," said Deputy Federal Transit Administrator Therese McMillan. "We must continue investing, together, in our nation's public transportation infrastructure, so future generations have the mobility they will need to succeed."

The recommendations also would complete the federal funding commitment for 10 transit projects funded in prior years. Among them is the Oakland, Calif., East Bay BRT project, which is expected to provide faster, more efficient bus service in one of the densest and most transit-dependent corridors in the San Francisco Bay area; and the Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn., Central Corridor light rail project, which has created thousands of construction jobs and is expected to improve access to major employment centers by linking the downtown areas of the Twin Cities.

During the Obama Administration, and as part of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), FTA has successfully put in place several new measures to streamline the CIG Program " one of the largest discretionary grant programs in the Federal government " so that projects move more efficiently through the pipeline, bringing the benefits of expanded transit choices to communities sooner than in the past.

FTA's"Annual Report on Funding Recommendations for the FY2015 Capital Investment Grant Program, including links to individual project profiles, is available on FTA's website.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Provides $30 Million to Improve Transit Options for American Indians, Alaska Natives on Tribal Lands

3/18/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
202-366-3669

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today announced the award of $5 million in competitive funds to 42 American Indian and Alaska Native tribes in 19 states for projects to improve transit service. The funds complement $25 million allocated by formula to eligible tribal recipients for FY 2014, as announced last week. The combined $30 million investment – double the amount available in prior years – supports efforts to enhance public transit service on rural tribal lands and better connect tribal members and other residents with jobs, education, and other ladders of opportunity. A formal notification will be published in the *Federal Register* in the coming weeks.

"The Obama Administration is proud to partner with tribal governments throughout the United States to create new ladders of opportunity for hard-working families and seniors hoping to improve their quality of life," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "Access to affordable transportation goes hand-in-hand with ensuring that American Indians, Alaskan natives and other rural residents have a chance to succeed and pursue their goals."

"We fully recognize that residents on tribal lands and in surrounding communities often face significant transportation challenges, as many cannot afford to own a vehicle, or fill the tank, and yet must travel long distances to reach basic services," said FTA Deputy Administrator Therese McMillan. "We want to ensure that everyone who needs a ride to earn a paycheck, attend school, see the doctor, or buy groceries has that opportunity."

Through FTA's Tribal Transit Program, the competitively awarded FY 2013 funds will allow tribes to continue or enhance existing transit service, launch new public transportation or plan for future transit needs. Projects awarded competitive funds include the following:

- The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe in Nevada will receive $300,000 for start-up transit operations to connect tribal members and other residents in the rural areas of Sutcliffe, Nixon, Wadsworth, and

Fernley to education, job training, health care, and employment opportunities in nearby Sparks and Reno.

- The Miami Tribe of Oklahoma will receive $265,498 to purchase tools and equipment needed for a new Flexible Fuel Vehicle Maintenance Facility for the Northeast Oklahoma Tribal Transit and Pelivan Transit fleets. The facility will service gasoline, diesel, CNG vehicles, and three 15-passenger commuter vans. The tools and equipment will provide new jobs and training for area technology schools and the Oklahoma State University.
- The Seneca Nation of Indians will receive $145,000 to improve its existing transit service and ensure safe, accessible, and coordinated transportation services for tribal members and other residents in western New York. Improvements include construction of ADA-compliant bus shelters on the tribe's Allegany and Cattaraugus Territories, installation of real-time electronic message boards at the new shelters, and installation of video and audio surveillance equipment on buses.

Under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) Act, FTA's Tribal Transit Program roughly doubled the amount of available funding from amounts awarded in recent years, but changed from an entirely discretionary program to a mostly formula-based one. Formula funds are awarded based on such factors as the miles a transit vehicle travels while in active service and the number of low-income individuals that reside on tribal lands. The FY 2014 formula funds, allocated to 112 tribes in 26 states, will help tribes continue to provide existing transit services that many rural residents depend on every day. The criteria for awarding competitive funds includes, among other things, project readiness; benefits to riders, such as increased reliability; economic benefits to the community; and a tribe's financial commitment to the project and to transit.

Under the prior authorization, SAFETEA-LU, approximately 200 tribal transit programs received a total of approximately $107 million to enhance, launch, or plan for transit service on tribal lands under the FTA Tribal Transit Program.

###

Federal Transit Administration Celebrates Opening of New Regional Transportation Center in Stockton, California

3/24/2014

Last week we helped break ground on a new Regional Transportation Center in Stockton, California, that’ll improve transit service for residents of San Joaquin County. Read more about this event on Facebook.

###

Federal Transit Administration Celebrates Opening of Montaño Transit Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico

4/7/2014

Today a new transit center opened in Albuquerque, NM, bringing together regional commuter rail and the city's bus system and making it easier for commuters to get from home to work and back again. Made possible by a $6.7 million grant from the Federal Transit Administration, the Monta□o Transit Center will serve ABQ RIDE and New Mexico Rail Runner Express passengers in the growing North Valley and Monta□o/Montgomery river-crossing corridor. Read more about this event on Facebook.

###

Federal Transit Administration Celebrates Opening of the Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center in Mansfield, Connecticut

4/14/2014

Today, the new Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center opened in Mansfield, Connecticut, making it more convenient for bus riders to travel to and from the new town center. Read more about this event on Facebook.

###

U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Calls for Transportation Investment During Atlanta BeltLine Visit

Highlights Project's Economic Impact as part of Invest in America Bus Tour

4/16/2014
Contact: Office of Public Affairs
202-366-4570

ATLANTA – U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx today joined Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed to tour the east side of the Atlanta BeltLine, calling it an example of the sort of large-scale job creation and transportation investment that Congress can make possible nationwide by reauthorizing a long-term transportation bill this year. The Secretary's visit is part of his *Invest in America, Commit to the Future* bus tour, a multi-state tour highlighting the urgent need to invest in America's transportation infrastructure at a time when the nation's surface transportation programs are set to expire and the Highway Trust Fund is running out of money.

"Projects like the Atlanta BeltLine not only create jobs when they're being built, but help connect thousands of Americans to better opportunities by providing better access to work and school," said Secretary Foxx. "I'm traveling across the country all week to highlight projects like this that show the difference we can make if we invest in America and commit to

the future &#65533; because just fixing what we have today isn&#65533;t going to help us meet the transportation needs of the future.&#65533;

The completed Atlanta BeltLine is expected to include a 22-mile streetcar loop with connections to the existing Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) rail system and the downtown Atlanta Streetcar Project, which is currently under construction and expected to open later this year. In addition to significantly improving access to transit options for thousands of residents in the Atlanta region, the BeltLine connects to affordable housing; hiking and walking trails; a skate park; and open parkland.

The Department of Transportation provided $18 million to support the Beltline project from its popular TIGER grant program in FY 2013, in addition to a separate $47.7 million TIGER grant in FY 2010 for Atlanta&#65533;s streetcar. All told, the federal, state, and local investment in these projects has spurred significant private investment in the surrounding area. Since 2005, more than 100 projects representing more than $1 billion in private investment have begun taking shape around the Atlanta BeltLine, including $775 million in new real estate development within a half mile of the project&#65533;s Eastside Trail and 1,000 apartment units under construction around the Historic Fourth Ward Park. Later this year, the landmark Ponce City Market nearby will reopen as a large, mixed-use site with housing, retail, and office space.

After touring the BeltLine, Secretary Foxx spoke about the Administration&#65533;s plan to address the infrastructure deficit with a $302 billion, four-year surface transportation reauthorization proposal. The plan will invest in our national infrastructure network, increase safety and efficiency and provide greater access to ladders of opportunity, all without adding to the deficit. Later this month, Secretary Foxx and President Obama will send a bill to Congress that will make this vision a reality and put more Americans back to work repairing and modernizing our roads, bridges, railways, and transit systems.

&#65533;Throughout our history, Americans have always been able to leave their children a brighter future, thanks in part to the opportunities transportation has provided,&#65533; said Secretary Foxx. &#65533;We are at risk of failing our children. We need to not only invest in America, but commit to the future &#65533; not only rebuild and repair our transportation infrastructure, but reimagine how we do it.&#65533;

Secretary Foxx&#65533;s *Invest in America, Commit to the Future* bus tour is taking him through eight states in five days. The tour includes visits to manufacturers, bridges, freight facilities and highway projects in an effort to raise awareness of America&#65533;s infrastructure needs. Secretary Foxx is visiting with business leaders, stakeholders and community members to

discuss how transportation projects are making a difference, and to highlight infrastructure gaps that we need to fill in order to promote economic growth and American competitiveness.

To follow the trip's progress, please click here.

###

U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Calls for Transportation Funding During Tour of NABI Bus Manufacturing Facility

Highlights Manufacturer's Economic Impact as part of Invest in America Bus Tour

4/16/2014
Contact: Office of Public Affairs
202-366-4570

ANNISTON, Ala. – U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx today toured the NABI Bus manufacturing headquarters facility in Anniston as part of his *Invest in America, Commit to the Future* bus tour. At NABI, more than 700 skilled workers make and assemble hundreds of transit buses deployed in communities nationwide to connect riders with opportunity. The Secretary's visit is part of a multi-state tour highlighting the urgent need to invest in America's transportation infrastructure at a time when the nation's surface transportation programs are set to expire and the Highway Trust Fund is running out of money.

"The Obama Administration's commitment to grow and modernize our nation's transportation systems has helped support hundreds of good manufacturing jobs in Anniston, where hard-working families need and deserve opportunities to succeed," said Secretary Foxx. "I'm traveling across the country all week to highlight work like this that shows the difference we can make and the jobs we can create if we invest in America and commit to the future."

NABI Bus, a division of New Flyer Industries, Inc. and a major employer in northeastern Alabama, is on track to make and assemble about 600 heavy-duty transit buses this year for several transit agencies, including Dallas Area Rapid Transit and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. Over 95 percent of NABI's bus orders are triggered by transit agencies that receive funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA). These new, fuel-efficient buses help transit agencies replace aging bus fleets and improve reliability for millions of riders. Secretary Foxx's tour of the NABI plant included stops at the robotic paint shop and the main assembly area for engine installation.

After touring the facility, Secretary Foxx spoke about the Administration's plan to address the infrastructure deficit with a $302 billion, four-year surface transportation reauthorization proposal. The plan will invest in our national infrastructure network, increase safety and efficiency and provide greater access to ladders of opportunity, all without adding to the deficit. Later this month, Secretary Foxx and President Obama will send a bill to Congress that will make this vision a reality and put more Americans back to work repairing and modernizing our roads, bridges, railways, and transit systems.

"Throughout our history, Americans have always been able to leave their children a brighter future, thanks in part to the opportunities transportation has provided," said Secretary Foxx. "We are at risk of failing our children. We need to not only invest in America, but commit to the future – not only rebuild and repair our roads and bridges, but reimagine how we do it."

Secretary Foxx's *Invest in America, Commit to the Future* bus tour is taking him through eight states in five days. The tour includes visits to manufacturers, bridges, freight facilities and highway projects in an effort to raise awareness of America's infrastructure needs. Secretary Foxx is visiting with business leaders, stakeholders and community members to discuss how transportation projects are making a difference, and to highlight infrastructure gaps that we need to fill in order to promote economic growth and American competitiveness.

To follow the trip's progress, please click here.

###

U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Calls for Transportation Investment During Visit to Birmingham Intermodal Facility

Highlights Project's Economic Impact as part of Invest in America Bus Tour

4/16/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
202-366-3669

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. "U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx today visited construction of the future site of the Birmingham Intermodal Facility, as part his *Invest in America, Commit to the Future* bus tour, calling it an investment in Alabama's economic future that could be replicated across the country if Congress would support a long-term transportation bill. The intermodal facility will significantly improve transit options and connect thousands of local residents to jobs and other opportunities in Birmingham and throughout Jefferson County. The Secretary's visit is part of a multi-state tour highlighting the urgent need to continue to invest in America's transportation infrastructure at a time when the nation's surface transportation programs are set to expire and the Highway Trust Fund is running out of money.

"Projects like the Birmingham Intermodal Facility not only create jobs, but also lay the foundation for long-term economic growth for entire regions and industries," said Secretary Foxx. "I'm traveling across the country all week to highlight projects like this that show the difference we can make

if we invest in America and commit to the future – because just fixing what we have today isn't going to help us meet the transportation needs of the future.–

Officials from the City of Birmingham and Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority broke ground on the new, state-of-the-art facility in March. The intermodal center, which is expected to be completed in 2015, will provide a convenient location in downtown Birmingham for residents to easily connect to and transfer between Amtrak, intercity bus routes, and local MAX bus service. The Federal Transit Administration is providing approximately $24 million toward the $30 million facility, covering 80 percent of the cost of construction.

After visiting the site, Secretary Foxx spoke about the Administration's plan to address the infrastructure deficit with a $302 billion, four-year surface transportation reauthorization proposal. The plan will invest in our national infrastructure network, increase safety and efficiency and provide greater access to ladders of opportunity, all without adding to the deficit. Later this month, Secretary Foxx and President Obama will send a bill to Congress that will make this vision a reality and put more Americans back to work repairing and modernizing our roads, bridges, railways, and transit systems.

"Throughout our history, Americans have always been able to leave their children a brighter future, thanks in part to the opportunities transportation has provided," said Secretary Foxx. "We are at risk of failing our children. We need to not only invest in America, but commit to the future – not only rebuild and repair our roads and bridges, but reimagine how we do it."

Secretary Foxx's *Invest in America, Commit to the Future* bus tour is taking him through eight states in five days. The tour includes visits to manufacturers, bridges, freight facilities, and highway projects in an effort to raise awareness of America's infrastructure needs. Secretary Foxx will visit with business leaders, stakeholders and community members to discuss how transportation projects are making a difference and to highlight infrastructure gaps that we need to fill in order to promote economic growth and American competitiveness.

To follow the trip's progress, please click here.

###

Federal Transit Administration Celebrates Ribbon-cutting on a Modernized Bus Maintenance Facility in Clarksdale, Mississippi

4/17/2014

In Clarksdale, Mississippi, in the heart of the Delta, public transportation is a real lifeline. That's why we're proud to have helped DARTS and the Aaron E. Henry Community Health Services Center modernize and upgrade their regional maintenance facility. Read more about this event on Facebook.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Opening of New SunRail Commuter Rail Line, Expanding Transit Service in Central Florida

4/30/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
202-366-3669

ORLANDO, Fla. – The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today celebrated the opening of the first phase of the SunRail commuter rail line, which will significantly expand transit options and connect thousands of residents to jobs and other economic opportunities throughout Central Florida. FTA Region IV Regional Administrator Yvette Taylor was joined by Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer, Orange County Mayor Teresa Jacobs, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) representatives and other local officials at an opening event at Orange County's Sand Lake Road Station.

"Projects like Central Florida's new SunRail commuter system not only create jobs as they're built, but help connect millions of area residents with better opportunities through improved access to work and school," said Secretary Anthony Foxx. "We will continue supporting important projects like this that show the difference we can make if we invest in America and commit to the future."

The first phase of the 32-mile commuter rail line will connect residents of Volusia, Seminole and Orange Counties with downtown Orlando, providing

easy access to thousands of jobs in the city's downtown business district, many within walking distance of the line's 12 new rail stations. The line also will link to Amtrak and LYNX bus service in downtown Orlando, improving transfers to LYMMO (the free bus rapid transit system that recently expanded service), and to other buses that serve greater Orlando.

"We applaud Central Florida's vision and support for a safe, efficient and connected transportation network that gives more than two million residents a convenient and reliable alternative to traffic congestion on Interstate-4," said FTA Deputy Administrator Therese McMillan. "SunRail will connect residents from DeBary to Sand Lake Road with the jobs and services they need, while removing barriers to success throughout the region."

Construction of the rail line has created thousands of jobs, according to FDOT. The project has also spurred a $250 million public-private investment in a 176-acre Health Village at Florida Hospital where a new SunRail station will enable thousands of medical researchers, hospital employees, patients and their families to take transit to work or obtain medical care. Across the entire rail line, more than two dozen retail, office, government, and residential development projects within a 10-minute walk of new SunRail stations are planned or under way — representing about $1.6 billion in public and private investments altogether.

The FTA provided $178.6 million toward construction of the initial segment through its Capital Investment (New Starts) Grant Program. The line is considered the first phase of what is expected to be a 61-mile commuter rail line. In March 2014, FTA announced that President Obama's Fiscal Year 2015 budget includes a recommendation to provide additional funding to extend the line 17.2 miles south into Osceola County.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Grand Opening of Denver Union Station

Multimodal Transportation Hub Will Provide Improved Transportation Connections

5/9/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
202-366-3669

DENVER – The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Railroad Administrator Joe Szabo today celebrated the grand opening of Denver Union Station, a historic building that has been transformed into a multimodal transportation hub that includes a new bus facility and rail connections, and will significantly improve transportation options in downtown Denver and beyond. Administrator Szabo was joined by Governor John Hickenlooper, U.S. Senator Mark Udall, U.S. Senator Michael Bennet, U.S. Representative Diana DeGette, Mayor Michael Hancock, and other local officials.

"As the gateway to one of the nation's fastest growing cities, Denver Union Station is not only transforming how the region moves, but it has transformed Denver's economy by spurring nearly a billion dollars in private investment," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx. "We need Congress to pass a long-term transportation bill so we can continue to invest in more good projects like this transportation hub to meet the rising demand for more and better transportation choices."

The new bus facility is part of a larger effort to redevelop Denver Union Station into a modern transportation center that integrates light rail, Amtrak, and new commuter rail lines with seamless connections to local, regional and intercity bus services. The bus concourse includes 22 bus bays to accommodate Denver Regional Transportation District (RTD) bus routes, as well as free downtown circulator routes, and other bus services.

"Nationwide, revitalized stations are proving to be magnets for economic development," said Federal Railroad Administrator Joseph C. Szabo. "This project has transformed the city's economy by spurring investment in the private sector, and has helped Denver's construction industry add jobs and rebound from the recession."

"We are proud to join with Denver to bring more world class transportation options to more than three million residents who live in the region," said Deputy Federal Transit Administrator Therese McMillan. "Projects like Denver Union Station and the Eagle commuter rail line will make a huge difference for hardworking families, students, and seniors who live in the metro area and need and deserve reliable transportation options to get to work, school and other opportunities."

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) have provided $87.3 million in grant funding toward the $479 million total cost of the Denver Union Station redevelopment project. In addition, the Department is providing approximately $300 million in loans from its Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) program and the Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing (RRIF) loan program.

DOT also is providing $1 billion in FTA Capital Investment (New Starts) grant funding and a TIFIA loan of up to $280 million for the Eagle commuter rail project, which includes construction of two new rail lines that will serve Denver Union Station and are expected to open in 2016. The East Line will connect Denver International Airport to Union Station, and the Gold Line will connect to the western suburbs of Wheat Ridge and Arvada.

Denver Union Station's renovation and the Eagle project are part of Colorado's far-reaching FasTracks program that, according to the Denver RTD, will help spur the economy by attracting nearly a billion dollars in private investment. The project, a voter-approved, multi-year, multibillion-dollar transit expansion program covering 140 miles of rail and bus corridors will help the city successfully manage growth and compete for business for years to come.

The Obama Administration recently unveiled the GROW AMERICA Act, a bold $302 billion, four-year national vision for an aging transportation network and a growing population. The GROW AMERICA Act would invest $72 billion in public transportation alone to address the urgent transit challenges facing our urban, suburban and rural communities. The Act provides a nearly 70 percent increase in authorized funding for public transportation over the current transportation law, MAP-21.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Opening of New Bus Rapid Transit Service in Fort Collins

5/10/2014
Contact: Amy Bernstein
202-366-0706

FORT COLLINS, Colo. – The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today participated in the grand opening of the MAX Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line, which will reduce commuting times and traffic congestion along a five-mile stretch of Fort Collins' major employment corridor. FTA Regional Administrator Linda Gehrke was joined by Fort Collins Mayor Karen Weitkunat and other local officials at the South Transit Center station opening event.

"President Obama understands that transportation opens doors to opportunity, and providing faster, more convenient bus service will help the residents of this vibrant city succeed," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "The four-year transportation bill we recently sent to Congress will help us build more good projects like the MAX Bus Rapid Transit line, tackling our infrastructure deficit and connecting more Americans to work, education, and health care."

The MAX BRT system serves 12 new stations along the Mason Corridor, from Cherry Street to south of Harmony Road. Roughly 60 percent of all Fort Collins jobs are located within one mile of the Mason Corridor. With a dedicated guideway for nearly three-quarters of the corridor, and priority at

traffic signals, MAX BRT is expected to operate more efficiently than auto travel along College Avenue. Riders will have easy access to several employers, including the offices of the City of Fort Collins and Larimer County, as well as access to Colorado State University, Foothills Mall, and the South College retail area.

"We applaud Fort Collins" vision of offering truly seamless transportation choices for thousands of residents " from the new MAX BRT line to other local Transfort bus routes, regional transit, and an extensive bicycle and pedestrian trail system," said FTA Deputy Administrator Therese McMillan. "The future of this city, and our nation, depends on making sustained investments in projects like this one that promote economic growth and opportunity for generations to come."

The MAX BRT line has been an economic boon to the region, generating approximately 1,000 construction jobs and spurring local economic development along the route, including construction of hundreds of new apartment units and over 21,000 square feet of planned retail and office space.

FTA funded $69.5 million, or 80 percent, of the total $87 million project; the remainder was funded by state and local sources, including the City of Fort Collins and Colorado State University.

The Department recently unveiled the GROW AMERICA Act, a bold $302 billion, four-year national vision for an aging transportation network and a growing population, all without adding to the deficit. The GROW AMERICA Act would invest $72 billion in public transportation alone to address the urgent transit challenges facing our urban, suburban and rural communities. The Act provides a nearly 70 percent increase in authorized funding for public transportation over the current transportation law, MAP-21.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates $2.1 Billion in Grant and Loan Funds to Extend Subway Service in West Los Angeles

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.
FULL FUNDING GRANT AGREEMENT
LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
WESTSIDE PURPLE LINE EXTENSION SECTION 1
THE GOVERNMENT HEREBY AWARDS THIS FULL FUNDING GRANT
THIS 21ST DAY OF MAY, 2014
Metro

5/21/2014
Contact: Tom Wilson
202-366-5279

WASHINGTON – U.S Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx today announced $2.1 billion in federal grant and loan agreements to help build the 3.9-mile Westside Purple Line Extension from downtown Los Angeles to the City of Beverly Hills–expanding transit options in one of the most congested corridors in Los Angeles County. The project sponsor, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA), will receive $1.25 billion in construction grant funds from the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Capital Investment Grant (CIG) Program and up to $856 million from the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) loan program.

"The continued expansion of Los Angeles' public transportation system is vitally important to millions of area residents who need reliable, affordable access to jobs, education, and other ladders of opportunity that this region has to offer," said Secretary Foxx. "We need Congress to pass a long-term transportation bill so we can continue to invest in more good projects like this one that help major cities like Los Angeles plan a sustainable future where hard-working families can fully participate in its growth and success."

The Westside Section 1 project—the first of three planned extensions of the Metro Purple Line subway—is expected to improve travel times and transit capacity from Beverly Hills to downtown Los Angeles, North Hollywood, Union Station, and other Los Angeles county communities. The project includes three new underground stations and 34 heavy rail vehicles to augment the existing fleet. LACMTA estimates that project construction will create more than 22,000 jobs. The extension is expected to open in 2024 and provide more than 20,000 trips daily.

"The Purple Line extension will help to alleviate congestion on popular Metro bus routes along Wilshire Boulevard, giving residents more options for getting around the city—and making it easier than ever to get around without a car," said FTA Chief Counsel Carter. "The future of Los Angeles depends on our ability to continue investing in the transportation infrastructure this city and others need to manage a growing population and accommodate future riders."

In addition to the $2.1 billion in funds announced for the Westside project today, the $2.8 billion project is also receiving approximately $12.2 million in other DOT and FTA funds, with the remainder funded by state and local sources.

The Obama Administration recently unveiled the GROW AMERICA Act, a bold $302 billion, four-year national vision for an aging transportation network and a growing population. The GROW AMERICA Act would invest $72 billion in public transportation alone to address the urgent transit challenges facing our urban, suburban and rural communities. The Act provides a nearly 70 percent increase in authorized funding for public transportation over the current transportation law, MAP-21.

Including the Westside Purple Line Extension, the FTA has executed 41 construction grant agreements for transformational transit projects since 2009 through its CIG Program. An additional 39 proposed projects are in the CIG pipeline that will need funding in the future, should they meet eligibility requirements. The President seeks a job-creating $10.77 billion investment for the CIG Program over four years in the GROW AMERICA Act. Without this level of funding, the FTA will be unable to fund many of the worthwhile projects currently in the pipeline.

FTA is advancing two other major transit expansion projects in the Los Angeles metropolitan area: the $1.4 billion—Regional Connector linking the Blue, Gold, and Exposition light rail lines in the heart of Los Angeles, which was approved for a $670 million FTA construction grant agreement, $64 million in other DOT funds, and a $160 million TIFIA loan in February; and the $2.1 billion—Crenshaw/LAX light rail transit corridor project, which broke ground in January, and is funded in part with a $545.9 million TIFIA

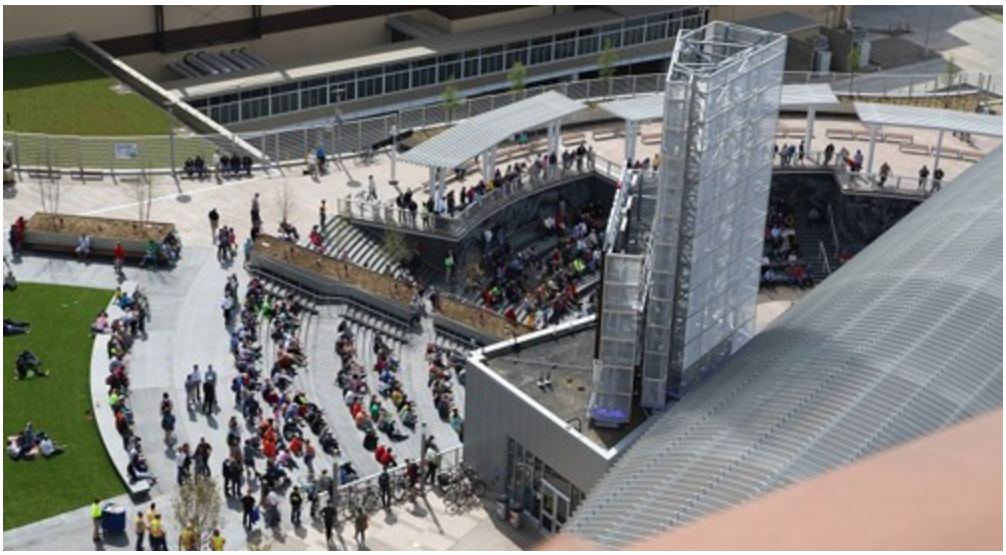
loan and approximately $130 million in other FTA and DOT funds. Eight additional rail and bus rapid transit projects in California that could receive federal construction funding in the future are also currently in FTA's capital investment grant pipeline.

The TIFIA credit program is designed to fill market gaps and leverage substantial non-federal investments. Each dollar of federal funding can provide up to $10 in TIFIA credit assistance and support up to $30 in transportation infrastructure investment. Since its launch, the TIFIA program has helped 45 projects turn approximately $17 billion in DOT assistance into more than $64 billion in infrastructure investment across America. The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) transformed TIFIA into one of the largest transportation infrastructure loan programs in history, making up to $17 billion available in credit assistance available for critical infrastructure projects.

Secretary Foxx was joined today by FTA Chief Counsel Dorval R. Carter, Jr.; Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer; U.S. Representatives Xavier Becerra and Henry Waxman, and other members of the Los Angeles Congressional delegation; Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti; Santa Monica Mayor Pam O'Connor; and other state and local officials.

###

FTA Celebrates Opening of Transit Field Station in Minneapolis, Minnesota



5/28/2014

In Minneapolis, MN, the new Target Field Station multi-modal hub not only connects the Metro Blue and Green lines and Northstar Commuter Rail, it also offers a public plaza for special events throughout the year, a 1000-seat amphitheater, green space, offices, and retail. Read more about this event on Facebook.

###

FTA Celebrates the Opening of New Island Transit Facilities on Whidbey Island, Washington

5/28/2014

Island Transit has been bringing transportation options to people on Whidbey Island, just north of Seattle, for 27 years, and they’ve just gotten a long-needed upgrade to their facilities with the help of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Read more about this event on Facebook.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Awards $234 Million to Transit Agencies in New York, New Jersey for Ongoing Hurricane Sandy Recovery Efforts

Projects help protect transit infrastructure against major weather events

5/30/2014
Contact: Amy Bernstein
202-590-6615

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today awarded approximately $167 million to the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey and $67 million to New Jersey Transit (NJT) from the FTA's Emergency Relief Program to help both agencies continue rebuilding and replacing transportation equipment and facilities damaged or destroyed by Hurricane Sandy, which triggered the worst transit disaster in U.S. history.

"The U.S. Department of Transportation has worked alongside the Port Authority and New Jersey Transit since Hurricane Sandy made landfall to help the nation's busiest transit network recover as efficiently as possible," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "The funds we're providing today will go a long way to help these agencies continue rebuilding and strengthening the rail systems, ferry terminals, and local infrastructure that millions of riders depend on every day to get to work, school, and other vital destinations."

The funds reimburse the Port Authority and NJT for capital projects that are already under way under FTA pre-award authority, while also funding other projects that have not yet moved forward. Altogether, the Port Authority and NJT were allocated $1.36 billion and $448.2 million respectively, for relief and recovery projects through FTA's Emergency Relief Program.

"One of our highest priorities in the wake of this record-breaking storm is to ensure that the Port Authority and New Jersey Transit—along with other hard-hit agencies, like the New York MTA—are able to fully restore public transit services that are the economic backbone of this entire region," said FTA Deputy Administrator Therese McMillan. "We will see to it that taxpayer dollars are responsibly spent and that the region's transit infrastructure is better protected when the next big storm hits."

The Port Authority funding supports 15 capital projects, such as replacing power, signal, and communications equipment destroyed by the storm; purchasing new locomotives; and acquiring equipment to mitigate damage from future storms, including temporary power substations and water removal systems and barriers.

New Jersey Transit funding supports seven projects, including standing up a new interoperable communications center in Maplewood, NJ, which will serve as a consolidated command and control center for coordinating all NJT functions and improving agency-wide response during a major weather event; repairing and restoring the Newark and Hudson-Bergen light rail lines; dredging storm-deposited silt from the Weehawken Port Imperial Ferry Terminal; and purchasing new fueling trucks that can readily bring fuel to diesel locomotives and other equipment that may be stranded during an emergency.

In December 2013, FTA announced the availability of $3 billion in competitive funding for regional resiliency projects that will better protect existing transit infrastructure damaged by Hurricane Sandy. FTA is currently reviewing 64 proposals totaling more than $6 billion in requests; project selections will be announced later this year.

For all transit agencies eligible to receive Hurricane Sandy aid, FTA has allocated approximately 55 percent of the $10.35 billion available through the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Awards $123.5 Million to Improve Passenger Ferry Services, Ferry Boats and Terminals

6/2/2014
Contact: Amy Bernstein
202-366-0706

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) today announced the award and distribution of approximately $123.5 million for passenger ferry projects and ferry operators throughout the United States and selected territories. The funds will support existing ferry service on many of the nation's waterways, establish new ferry service where it is needed most, and help to repair and modernize ferry boats, terminals, and related facilities that thousands of residents in these communities depend on.

"Passenger ferries play an important role in our nation's transportation network by connecting people with the jobs and services they need to reach across the river, the bay, or other local waterway," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "We need Congress to pass a long-term transportation bill so we can continue to invest in ferry boat services that provide ladders of opportunity for hard-working families."

The DOT's ferry funds are administered separately through the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Passenger Ferry Grant Program, which is providing $60 million in competitive funds for "26 projects in 13 states and Puerto Rico; and the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Ferry

Boat Formula Program, which is providing $63.5 million to 114 operators in 37 states, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Through FTA's Passenger Ferry Grant Program, competitively awarded FY2013 and FY2014 funds will help existing ferry systems, such as the Corpus Christi Harbor Ferry, in Texas, to refurbish two dock landing areas for the ferry service to better ensure safe and reliable service for passengers. The funds also support new ferry service, such as Virginia's new commuter ferry from Jones Point Park in Alexandria to the Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling military installation in Southeast Washington, D.C.; and allows for the rehabilitation of the Cross Sound Ferry Service Terminal on Long Island that serves 1.1 million passengers each year between Orient Point, New York and New London, Connecticut. Only designated and direct recipients of FTA's Urbanized Area Program and federally recognized tribes operating public ferry systems in urbanized areas are eligible for capital project funds.

"Waterways help to define and shape the economies of many of our cities and tribal communities, and in these places, ferry service is an essential form of transportation," said FTA Deputy Administrator Therese McMillan. "We must bring our existing ferry systems and facilities into a state of good repair, and support new ferry service where there's a clear need."

Projects eligible for FHWA's FY 2014 Ferry Boat Program must be at least 50 percent publicly owned or operated and publicly regulated—a measure adopted to ensure that public funds are not used for private commercial ferry operations. Eligible operators and terminals are identified in the Bureau of Transportation Statistics' *National Census of Ferry Operators*.

"These projects help provide more travel choices to people and improve access to jobs," Federal Highway Deputy Administrator Gregory Nadeau said. "Ferry service represents a key transportation link for certain communities — much like highways and bridges do in other areas of the country."

Under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) Act, FTA's Passenger Ferry Grant Program was authorized for the first time to provide competitive funding to public ferry systems in urbanized areas. Funds are awarded based on factors such as the age and condition of existing ferry boats, terminals and related infrastructure; benefits to riders, such as increased reliability; project readiness; and connectivity to other modes of transportation. MAP-21 changed the FHWA ferry boat program from a discretionary to a formula one, in which each state receives funding based on the number of passengers and vehicles a ferry service carries and its total route miles.

The Obama Administration recently unveiled the GROW AMERICA Act, a bold $302 billion, four-year national vision for an aging transportation network and a growing population.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Announces the Availability of $100 Million for New Ladders of Opportunity Initiative to Connect More Americans with Jobs

6/4/2014
Contact: Amy Bernstein
202-366-0706

WASHINGTON – U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx today announced the availability of approximately $100 million in competitive grant funds through the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) new Ladders of Opportunity Initiative. The funds may be used to modernize and expand transit bus service specifically for the purpose of connecting disadvantaged and low-income individuals, veterans, seniors, youths, and others with local workforce training, employment centers, health care, and other vital services.

"Throughout our history, Americans have always been able to leave their children a brighter future, thanks in part to the opportunities transportation has provided," said Secretary Foxx. "Innovative initiatives like this one can offer people the ladders to success they need to join the middle class, provide for their families, and achieve a better quality of life."

Program funds may be used to purchase, replace, or rehabilitate transit buses and vans as well as to modernize or construct bus facilities (such as maintenance depots and intermodal facilities) in urban, suburban, and rural

communities. Competitive proposals must also directly address ladders of opportunity for riders, including:

- **Enhancing access to work** for individuals lacking ready access to transportation, especially in low-income communities;
- **Supporting economic opportunities** by offering transit access to employment centers, educational and training opportunities, and other basic needs;
- **Supporting partnerships and coordinated planning** among state and local governments and social, human service, and transportation providers to improve coordinated planning and delivery of workforce development, training, education, and basic services to veterans, seniors, youths, and other disadvantaged populations.

�Over half of the roughly 10 billion transit trips taken each year in the United States are by bus�and nearly half the buses people depend on are in marginal or poor condition,� said FTA Deputy Administrator Therese McMillan. �This new initiative will help ensure that millions of riders can count on safe, efficient, reliable bus service that connects them with opportunities and services so essential to daily life.�

Funding for FTA�s Ladders of Opportunity Initiative is drawn from leftover/remaining discretionary grant funds originally available prior to the enactment of MAP-21, as part of FTA�s Bus and Bus Facilities Program. FTA will cover up to 80 percent of the total project cost; a 20 percent local match is required.

A Notice of Funding Availability for the FTA Bus and Bus Facilities Program Ladders of Opportunity Initiative appears in today�s Federal Register (PDF).

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Opening of Central Corridor Light Rail Line in St. Paul-Minneapolis Region

6/14/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
202-366-3669

ST. PAUL, Minn. &#65533; The U.S. Department of Transportation&#65533;s Acting Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy Peter Rogoff today celebrated the grand opening of the Central Corridor Light Rail Line. The new line will link the Twin Cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis along one of the most heavily traveled corridors in the region and significantly improve access to jobs and other opportunities for thousands of residents. Acting Under Secretary Rogoff was joined by Governor Mark Dayton, Senators Amy Klobuchar and Al Franken, Representatives Keith Ellison and Betty McCollum, and other state and local officials.

&#65533;The Obama Administration is proud to partner with Minnesota to bring more world class transportation options to the Twin Cities and help transform the local economy with a project that has created thousands of jobs and attracted nearly $2.5 billion dollars in private investment,&#65533; said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. &#65533;We&#65533;ve introduced the GROW AMERICA Act to provide more long-term funding so other states may also continue to meet the rising demand for more and better transportation choices.&#65533;

The Obama Administration recently unveiled the GROW AMERICA Act, a bold $302 billion, four-year national vision to address an aging transportation network and a growing population. In February, President Obama visited the restored Union Depot in downtown St. Paul to announce his transportation budget proposal.

The 11-mile Central Corridor light rail line, also known as the METRO Green Line, includes 18 new stations that will connect many neighborhoods along the line and provide improved access to four of the largest employment areas in the state—the downtown areas of Minneapolis and St. Paul, the University of Minnesota and the Midway District—as well as the State Capitol complex. The line also connects riders to the METRO Blue Line, which serves other popular destinations such as Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport and the Mall of America. At Target Field Station, Green and Blue Line riders can connect to the Northstar Commuter Rail Line.

"With more than 3.2 million residents in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area and thousands more expected in the coming decades, expanding transportation choices is critical to the region's success," said Acting Under Secretary Rogoff. "Projects like the new Green Line will make a huge difference for hardworking families, students, and seniors who deserve reliable transportation options to get to work, school and other opportunities."

The FTA provided $474 million through its Capital Investment Grant (CIG) Program as well as $4.5 million in other DOT funds toward the $957 million project. The remaining cost is covered by state and local funding sources.

The Metropolitan Council estimates the new light rail line will serve more than 40,000 weekday passengers by the year 2030.

###

Federal Transit Administration Celebrates 50th Anniversary

Landmark law strengthened nation's access to public transportation systems

S. 6 PUBLIC LAW 88-365

Eighty-eighth Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

Begun and held at the City of Washington on Tuesday, the seventh day of January, one thousand nine hundred and sixty-four

An Act

To authorize the Housing and Home Finance Administrator to provide additional assistance for the development of comprehensive and coordinated mass transportation systems, both public and private, in metropolitan and other urban areas, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964".

FINDINGS AND PURPOSES

SEC. 2. (a) The Congress finds—

(1) that the predominant part of the Nation's population is located in its rapidly expanding metropolitan and other urban areas, which generally cross the boundary lines of local jurisdictions and often extend into two or more States;

(2) that the welfare and vitality of urban areas, the satisfactory

THE WHITE HOUSE JUL 2 - 1964 RECEIVED

JUL 9 1964

7/9/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
202-366-3669

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Urban Mass Transportation Act, signed by President Lyndon Johnson in 1964 to achieve, in his words, "better systems for getting our people to work and home again"and getting them there with speed and safety and economy and comfort."

"Fifty years ago, Congress and President Johnson took action to bolster our nation's public transit systems at a time when more and better transportation choices were desperately needed in America's cities," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "Today, with transit ridership growing nationwide–in urban, suburban, and rural communities alike–our GROW AMERICA Act is another historic opportunity to usher in a new era for public transportation."

The Act, signed into law on July 9, 1964, created the foundation for the federal, state and local partnerships that have improved and expanded the nation's public transportation systems–establishing a program of federal

financial assistance that creates ladders of opportunity for millions of Americans daily in metropolitan and rural areas.

“Over the last half century, we have seen the enormous benefits of federal investments in public transportation in cities from Boston to San Diego, in rural communities from Nebraska to Missouri”all of which spur billions of dollars in economic development and create much-needed transportation choices,” said Deputy Federal Transit Administrator Therese McMillan. “Continued investments in public transportation will create jobs, revitalize communities, and create new opportunities for hard-working families.”

The landmark 1964 Act provided $375 million in capital assistance over a three-year period for established bus, rail, and streetcar systems. The first round of grants helped the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority to modernize its rail stations, the City of Cleveland to extend rail service to Hopkins International Airport, and the City of Vallejo, California, to purchase new transit buses. The bill also laid the groundwork for establishing the Urban Mass Transportation Administration, the agency that would later become known as the FTA.

To ensure continued access to safe and reliable public transportation for future generations, the Obama Administration recently unveiled the GROW AMERICA Act, a bold plan that would provide $302 billion over the next four years, including $72 billion for transit, to address an aging transportation network and a growing population.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Grand Opening of Tucson Streetcar, Further Expanding Regional Transit Choices

7/25/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
202-366-3669

Tucson, Ariz. – The U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today celebrated the grand opening of the Sun Link Streetcar line. The new line will significantly improve transit options for thousands of area residents and connect major activity centers in downtown Tucson with health care facilities, the University of Arizona and other regional attractions. FTA Chief Counsel Dorval Carter joined Tucson Mayor Jonathan Rothschild and other local officials at a ribbon-cutting event. The streetcar line was funded in part with a $63 million DOT Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant.

"The new Sun Link Streetcar line is a great addition to Tucson's growing transit network, connecting residents and students with work, school, and other ladders of opportunity, while also spurring tremendous economic development that creates jobs in the city," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "This Administration would like to build more projects like this one in other communities across the country, but we need Congress' help to pass a long-term funding bill to meet the rising demand for more and better transportation choices."

The new four-mile streetcar route connects the University of Arizona and the University of Arizona Medical Center with the Tucson Convention Center, the 4th Avenue Business District, the historic downtown area, and the Mercado District under development west of Interstate 10. Riders can easily transfer from selected streetcar stops to Sun Tran bus service and the university's Cat Tran shuttle service. The Downtown Tucson Partnership estimates the project created approximately 500 construction jobs and has generated roughly $1.5 billion in public-private investments along the corridor, including more than 1,500 new housing units, restaurants, and retail.

"Roughly 100,000 people live within a half-mile of one of the new Sun Link streetcar stations, and that's great news for everyone looking for an opportunity to leave their car at home and take transit instead," said FTA Chief Counsel Carter. "We must continue to invest in transportation projects like this one that help the local economy to grow and give working families a chance to succeed."

Tucson's eight zero-emission streetcars were manufactured in Portland, Oregon, by United Streetcar, a U.S.-owned manufacturer of modern streetcars. The Tucson Streetcar is one of two federally-funded streetcar systems in America, along with the Portland Streetcar, to take delivery of modern streetcars from a U.S.-owned streetcar manufacturer in the last 60 years. United Streetcar is a beneficiary of the federal government's Buy America regulation, which requires at least 60 percent of the content of transit vehicles to be produced domestically. Through Buy America, FTA helps to ensure that transit vans, buses, streetcars, and rail cars funded with taxpayer dollars are built in the U.S. using American-made materials and labor"which in turns helps to preserve and grow domestic manufacturing jobs.

To strengthen domestic manufacturing and innovation, President Obama's"GROW AMERICA Act would gradually increase the domestic content requirement for transit vehicles from 60 percent to 100 percent by 2019.

In addition to the DOT TIGER funds, FTA invested $19.7 million in other DOT funds toward the $196.5 million Sun Link Streetcar project.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Opening of Silver Line, Major Expansion of Metrorail Service in the Nation's Capital

7/26/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
202-366-3669

WASHINGTON – U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx and other U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) officials today celebrated the opening of the first phase of the Silver Line—the largest expansion of Metrorail service in 20 years—connecting the nation's capital to Tysons Corner and the Reston area of Fairfax County. Secretary Foxx was joined by DOT Acting Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy Peter Rogoff, Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Deputy Administrator Therese McMillan, Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe, Congressman Gerry Connolly, Congressman Frank Wolf, Congressman Jim Moran, DC Mayor Vincent Gray, and other state and local officials.

"The Obama Administration is proud to be a partner in delivering more world class transportation options to the Washington Metropolitan area and connecting thousands of residents and visitors with major employment, education and economic opportunities throughout the region," said Secretary Foxx. "The Silver Line is an excellent example of why Congress should pass the President's GROW AMERICA Act so we can meet the rising demand for more and better transportation choices by supporting projects like this across the country."

The 11.7-mile Silver Line extension is the first phase of a planned 23.1-mile extension of Metrorail service to Dulles International Airport and Loudoun County. Phase 1 extends Metrorail service from East Falls Church Metrorail station through the large Tysons Corner employment and retail center to the Wiehle-Reston East Metrorail station in the Reston area of Fairfax County. The project includes five new stations, a 2,300-car commuter parking garage, the purchase of 64 rail cars, and expanded capacity at the West Falls Church rail yard.

"With continued population growth expected over the next 20 years, the Silver Line is an excellent investment in the Washington region's transportation future" said FTA Deputy Administrator McMillan. "This project will expand capacity for one of our nation's largest transit agencies, accommodate thousands of additional riders for years to come, and offer a much-needed alternative to traffic congestion in Northern Virginia."

The U.S. Department of Transportation is providing $900 million in FTA Capital Investment Grant (New Starts) Funding and $75 million in other DOT funds toward the $3.14 billion total project cost of the first phase of the Silver Line extension. The remaining cost is being covered by state and local funding sources.

In addition, DOT has approved a $1.875 billion Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) loan for construction of the second phase of the Silver Line extension to Loudoun County—the largest TIFIA loan in the program's history.

The Silver Line is being constructed by the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) and operated by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). The new line is expected to serve approximately 85,700 daily riders by 2030.

###

Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx Awards $35 Million to Help Expand Capacity, Improve Service of Chicago's L

Grant is first in the nation to address "core capacity" expansion needs of a major urban rail transit system

8/7/2014
Contact: Amy Bernstein
202-366-0706

CHICAGO – U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx joined Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel today to announce a $35 million grant to help the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) lay the groundwork to improve service and capacity on a heavily traveled segment of its aging North Red Line and Purple Line rail transit system. The CTA is the first U.S. transit agency selected for funding through the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) new Core Capacity Grant Program, which is designed to help rail transit providers increase the volume of passengers or trains without expanding the footprint of the system.

"The City of Chicago has run on public transportation for over a century, and it is up to all of us to ensure that the many thousands of riders who cross this city by train every day to get to work, to school, to the doctor's, or even to see the Cubs or White Sox, can continue do so safely, efficiently, and comfortably," said Secretary Foxx. "Congress should pass the President's GROW AMERICA Act so we can support more projects like this in transit-intensive cities across the country."

The FTA's $35 million Core Capacity grant supports $43.7 million to plan the initial phase of the CTA's comprehensive 9.6-mile, $4.7 billion Red-Purple Line Modernization Project. This initial work will pave the way for constructing a track bypass immediately north of the CTA Belmont Station to reduce bottlenecks with the Brown Line; expanding and modernizing four rail stations between Leland and Ardmore Avenues, to make them ADA-compliant for the first time; upgrading rail corridor signals; and making other track and related infrastructure improvements. According to CTA, the future enhancements are expected to result in faster, smoother service and increase passenger capacity by about 30 percent. Approximately 110,000 daily riders on this segment of the Red and Purple lines are expected to benefit from these investments, CTA says.

"While Chicago's transit systems face state-of-good-repair challenges, we cannot ignore the equally important need to modernize the current system to meet rising demand for service now, and for years to come," said FTA Acting Administrator Therese McMillan. "The need is equally great in cities across the country—from Washington, D.C. to San Francisco—which is why we must keep pace with investments in a 21st century transportation systems that generations depend on."

FTA's Core Capacity Program was created by the current authorizing legislation, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) Act. The program is a new addition to the agency's existing Capital Investment Grants Program (often called New Starts/Small Starts). Projects eligible for Core Capacity grants must expand capacity by at least 10 percent in existing transit corridors that are already at or above capacity today, or are expected to reach that point within five years. The FTA's FY2014 budget includes $120 million for the Core Capacity Program; FTA is determining how to allocate the remaining funds. The President's FY2015 budget proposal seeks an additional $275 million for the program.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Opening of Silver Line Bus Rapid Transit System in Grand Rapids, Michigan

8/25/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
202-366-3669

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today celebrated the grand opening of the Silver Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system. The new system will significantly improve transit options in the greater Grand Rapids area and offer faster, more convenient access to major downtown employers along one of the city's busiest commercial corridors. FTA Acting Administrator Therese McMillan joined Michigan Department of Transportation Director Kirk Steudle, The Rapid Board Chair Barb Holt and Chief Executive Officer Peter Varga, and other local officials at a ribbon-cutting event.

"The Obama Administration is proud to partner with Michigan to improve transportation options for students, families, seniors and other residents in Grand Rapids who need and deserve a reliable option for getting to work, school, medical appointments and other opportunities," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "Congress should pass the President's GROW AMERICA Act so we can invest in more good projects like this one that offer access to ladders of opportunity across the country."

The new Silver Line is operated by Interurban Transit Partnership, known as The Rapid. The 9.6-mile route operates primarily along Division Avenue,

serving residential areas along the corridor and major employers such as St. Mary's Medical campus, the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine, and the Cook-DeVos School of Nursing. Compared to non-BRT service, the Silver Line is faster because it eliminates the need for transfers between stops and uses dedicated bus lanes for much of the route.

"The Silver Line is an excellent example of bus rapid transit that's done right"offering a convenient and reliable travel option for thousands of residents in the Grand Rapids area," said FTA Acting Administrator McMillan. "This new service will cut commuting times nearly in half for many workers, students and seniors in Kent County who are traveling to jobs, school and medical facilities in downtown Grand Rapids and the Medical Mile, while helping to reduce congestion on US 131."

The FTA contributed approximately $32 million toward the $40 million total project cost, including $19 million through its Capital Investment Grant Program and $13 million through its Bus and Bus Facilities Grant Program. The remaining cost is covered by state funding.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Opening of New Cleveland Transit Station

8/28/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
202-309-8382

CLEVELAND – The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today celebrated the opening of Cleveland's Cedar-University Rapid Station that will make it easier for transit riders to connect to bus and rail services at one of the city's busiest transfer locations. FTA Acting Administrator Therese McMillan was joined by Mayor Frank Jackson, Cleveland City Councilwoman Mamie Mitchell, Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (RTA) General Manager Joe Calabrese, and other local officials at a ribbon-cutting event.

"The Obama Administration is proud to partner with Cleveland to support critical station improvements that will make it safer and more convenient than ever for residents to take transit to work, school, medical facilities and other opportunities throughout the region," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "It's the kind of project we'd like to see more of, and one way to do that is if Congress supports our GROW AMERICA Act to provide long-term funding for transit systems, roads and bridges nationwide."

If Congress passes the GROW AMERICA Act, State of Ohio transit agencies will receive approximately $60 million in State of Good Repair Program

funding in FY 2015. This funding, used to improve rail transit infrastructure, represents an increase of $37.5 million over the amount provided in FY 2014.

The new station, near Case Western Reserve University, replaces an aging rail station and bus terminal, built in 1956, with a modern facility that significantly improves access for pedestrians and people with disabilities. The project included complete reconstruction of the rail station and relocation of the bus terminal to the north side of Cedar Glen, eliminating the need for street crossings and enhancing pedestrian connections between the bus terminal and rail station.

"Cleveland deserves a safe, efficient and reliable transit system that meets the needs of its riders, and provides easy and affordable access to jobs and other opportunities throughout Cuyahoga County," said Acting Administrator McMillan. "This project helps to ensure that University Circle remains a vibrant, attractive neighborhood offering good transportation choices to hard-working families, students, and other residents."

The U.S. Department of Transportation contributed more than $16 million toward the $20 million project, including $10.5 million through its Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant program and $5.5 million in other FTA grant funds. The remaining cost was covered by local sources, including the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency and a group of local businesses led by the Cleveland Foundation, including University Circle Inc., Case Western Reserve University, University Hospitals and the Cleveland Clinic.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Announces $10.3 Million in TIGER Funds for St. Louis Light Rail Corridor Improvements

Demand Demonstrates Need for Greater Transportation Investment through GROW AMERICA Act

9/12/2014
Contact: DOT Press Office
(202) 366-4570

ST. LOUIS • U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx today announced that the Bi-State Development Agency (known as Metro) has been awarded a $10.3 million TIGER grant toward construction of a new light rail transit (LRT) station and other improvements for accessing St. Louis• existing MetroLink transit system. The project is one of 72 transportation projects selected to receive a total of nearly $600 million in 46 states and the District of Columbia from the Department of Transportation•s 2014 TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) Program, which Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx announced on September 12. Under Secretary for Policy Peter Rogoff traveled to St. Louis for the local announcement.

•As uncertainty about the future of long-term federal funding continues, this round of TIGER will be a shot in the arm for these innovative, job-creating and quality of life-enhancing projects,• said Secretary Foxx. •TIGER will fill a gap in St. Louis• transit network providing better access to downtown jobs and economic opportunity with the addition of Cortex Station and expanding the crowded Central West End Station. For every project we select, however, we must turn dozens more away • projects that could be getting done if Congress passed the GROW AMERICA Act, which would double the funding available for TIGER and growing the number of projects we could support.•

The TIGER funds will support the construction of a new light rail transit rail station at Boyle Avenue and Sarah Street in the Cortex District—filling a 1.6-mile gap between stations. A new bike trail connecting the new Cortex station to the regional Great Rivers Greenway will also be constructed. The improvements are expected to support the development of the Cortex mid-town "innovation district," which is home to the Washington University School of Medicine, the Wexford Science and Technology Center and over 4 million square feet of planned mixed-use development hosting thousands of technology-related jobs. The TIGER grant also helps to expand the existing Central West End LRT station—the busiest on the MetroLink system, which serves a disadvantaged population. The overall work is expected to cost a total of approximately $13 million.

"These TIGER funds will go a long way to help St. Louis achieve its goal of developing a job-creating technology hub that is fully accessible by public transportation," said Under Secretary Rogoff. "The TIGER Program is ideally suited to projects like this that leverage transportation as a means of strengthening communities and creating new opportunities for thousands of residents."

"We congratulate the citizens of St. Louis, who are the true winners in obtaining these highly competitive TIGER grant funds," said Federal Transit Administration Acting Administrator Therese McMillan. "This project will improve access to efficient, reliable public transportation and create ladders of opportunity for many hard-working families."

The GROW AMERICA Act, the Administration's surface transportation reauthorization proposal, would authorize $5 billion over four years for much-needed additional TIGER funding to help meet the overwhelming demand for significant infrastructure investments around the country and provide the certainty that states and local governments need to properly plan for investment. The $302 billion, four year transportation reauthorization proposal would provide increased and stable funding for the nation's highways, bridges, transit, and rail systems without contributing to the deficit. The GROW AMERICA Act also includes several critical program reforms to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of federal highway, rail and transit programs.

The Department received 797 eligible applications from 49 states, U.S. territories and the District of Columbia, an increase from the 585 applications received in 2013. Overall, applicants requested 15 times the $600 million available for the program, or $9.5 billion for needed transportation project.

Since 2009, the TIGER program has provided nearly $4.1 billion to 342 projects in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Demand

for the program has been overwhelming, and during the previous five rounds, the Department of Transportation received more than 6,000 applications requesting more than $124 billion for transportation projects across the country. Congress provided the most recent funding as part of the bipartisan Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014, signed by President Obama on January 17, 2014.

Click here for additional information on individual TIGER grants.

Click here for additional information on the Department of Transportation's 2014 TIGER Program.

Click here for additional information on the GROW AMERICA Act.

###

U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Announces $20 Million in TIGER Funds for MBTA Ruggles Station

Demand Demonstrates Need for Greater Transportation Investment through GROW AMERICA Act

9/12/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
(202) 366-3669

BOSTON – U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx was in Boston today to announce that the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) has been selected to receive $20 million in TIGER funds towards a $30 million project to modernize Ruggles Station. The project is one of 72 transportation projects selected to receive a total of nearly $600 million in 46 states and the District of Columbia from the Department of Transportation's TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) 2014 program.

"As uncertainty about the future of long-term federal funding continues, this round of TIGER will be a shot in the arm for these innovative, job-creating and quality of life-enhancing projects," said Secretary Foxx. "Ruggles Station's capacity is so squeezed – and so few trains can enter – that some commuters have to overshoot the station and double back to find a train that gets them home or to work or to school and TIGER is going to fix that problem. For every project we select, however, we must turn dozens more away – projects that could be getting done if Congress passed the GROW AMERICA Act, which would double the funding available for TIGER and growing the number of projects we could support."

Ruggles Station is an urban intermodal facility that serves MBTA commuter rail, bus, the Orange Line subway and private bus shuttles, as well as pedestrian and bicycle access. The project will add a second platform at the

station, eliminating the need for passengers to transfer at Back Bay Station, resulting in a shorter and more efficient commute for thousands of riders, including residents of Roxbury, a disadvantaged area where Ruggles Station is located. The project also brings the station into full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, brings rail tracks into a state of good repair and improves the connection between the station and employment, education and cultural centers.

"We congratulate the citizens of Boston and the Roxbury neighborhood, who are the true winners in obtaining these highly competitive TIGER grant funds," said Acting Federal Transit Administrator Therese McMillan. "This project will improve access to efficient, reliable public transportation for thousands of area residents and students who depend on the T to reach jobs, schools, medical care, and other important destinations."

The GROW AMERICA Act, the administration's surface transportation reauthorization proposal, would authorize $5 billion over four years for much-needed additional TIGER funding to help meet the overwhelming demand for significant infrastructure investments around the country and provide the certainty that states and local governments need to properly plan for investment. The $302 billion, four year transportation reauthorization proposal would provide increased and stable funding for the nation's highways, bridges, transit, and rail systems without contributing to the deficit. The GROW AMERICA Act also includes several critical program reforms to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of federal highway, rail, and transit programs.

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Since 2009, the TIGER program has provided nearly $4.1 billion to 342 projects in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Demand for the program has been overwhelming, and during the previous five rounds, the Department of Transportation received more than 6,000 applications requesting more than $124 billion for transportation projects across the country. Congress provided the most recent funding as part of the bipartisan Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014, signed by President Obama on January 17, 2014.

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Click here for additional information on the Department of Transportation's 2014 TIGER Program.

Click here for additional information on the GROW AMERICA Act.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Announces $22 Million in TIGER Funds for Rosa Parks Station and Eastside Access Improvements

Demand Demonstrates Need for Greater Transportation Investment through GROW AMERICA Act

9/13/2014
Contact: DOT Press Office
(202) 366-4570

LOS ANGELES – U.S. Department of Transportation Deputy Secretary Victor Mendez was in Los Angeles today to announce that the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority has been awarded two TIGER grants totaling $22.05 million to modernize the busy Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Station on the Blue Line and improve bicycle and pedestrian access in Little Tokyo. The projects are among 72 transportation projects selected to receive a total of $600 million in 46 states and the District of Columbia from the Department of Transportation's 2014 TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) Program, which Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx announced on September 12.

"As uncertainty about the future of long-term federal funding continues, this round of TIGER will be a shot in the arm for these innovative, job-creating and quality of life-enhancing projects," said Secretary Foxx. "As the population of California's largest city continues to grow, it is imperative that we invest in transit projects like these to ensure that all Angelenos can participate in the life of this city and have an opportunity to join the middle class. For every project we select, however, we must turn dozens more away – projects that could be getting done if Congress passed the GROW AMERICA Act, which would double the funding available for TIGER and growing the number of projects we could support."

�These TIGER grants reflect the Department's ongoing commitment to help greater Los Angeles bring more good transportation options to one of the most congested metropolitan regions in the United States,� said Deputy Secretary Mendez. "The TIGER Program is ideally suited to projects like these that leverage transportation as a means strengthening communities and creating new opportunities for thousands of residents."

The TIGER funds will support two separate projects in Los Angeles County. One grant invests $10.25 million toward the estimated $53 million renovation and modernization of the Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Station, the city's fourth-busiest station, serving over 22,000 passengers daily. The station will undergo a series of improvements, including relocating the bus terminal to be closer to the Blue Line; extending the station platform; constructing new pedestrian pathways; and building a new community plaza. The second grant, farther downtown, in Little Tokyo, provides $11.8 million in TIGER funds toward the $17 million Eastside Access Improvement project, which will bring new crosswalks, bicycle lanes, and streetscaping to improve access to Union Station and existing Metro bus and rail connections"while making the area safer for walking and biking. These improvements will also support the planned Regional Connector light rail system that connects the Little Tokyo and Arts District communities to a variety of Los Angeles destinations.

"We congratulate the citizens of Los Angeles, who are big winners in obtaining these highly competitive TIGER grant funds," said Federal Transit Administration Acting Administrator Therese McMillan. "These projects will support LA's ongoing efforts to improve access to efficient, reliable public transportation throughout the region and ensure that hard-working families can reach jobs, school, health care, and take advantage of all the region has to offer."

The GROW AMERICA Act, the Administration's surface transportation reauthorization proposal, would authorize $5 billion over four years for much-needed additional TIGER funding to help meet the overwhelming demand for significant infrastructure investments around the country and provide the certainty that states and local governments need to properly plan for investment. The $302 billion, four year transportation reauthorization proposal would provide increased and stable funding for the nation's highways, bridges, transit, and rail systems without contributing to the deficit. The GROW AMERICA Act also includes several critical program reforms to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of federal highway, rail, and transit programs.

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$600 million available for the program, or $9.5 billion for needed transportation projects.

Since 2009, the TIGER program has provided nearly $4.1 billion to 342 projects in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Demand for the program has been overwhelming, and during the previous five rounds, the Department of Transportation received more than 6,000 applications requesting more than $124 billion for transportation projects across the country. Congress provided the most recent funding as part of the bipartisan Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014, signed by President Obama on January 17, 2014.

Click here for additional information on individual TIGER grants.

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Click here for additional information on the GROW AMERICA Act.

###

U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Announces $24.9 Million in TIGER Funds for Richmond Bus Rapid Transit

Demand Demonstrates Need for Greater Transportation Investment through GROW AMERICA Act

9/13/2014
Contact: DOT Press Office
(202) 366-4570

RICHMOND, Va. – U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx was in Richmond today to announce a $24.9 million TIGER grant for the Greater Richmond Transit Company toward the construction of the Broad Street Bus Rapid Transit line in Henrico County. The project is one of 72 transportation projects selected to receive a total of nearly $600 million in 46 states and the District of Columbia from the Department of Transportation's 2014 TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) Program, which Secretary Foxx announced on September 12.

"As uncertainty about the future of long-term federal funding continues, this round of TIGER will be a shot in the arm for these innovative, job-creating and quality of life-enhancing projects," said Secretary Foxx. "For example, Richmond is one of the few remaining metro regions in the country that has more than a million residents, yet lacks a local travel option that's competitive with driving – something like commuter or light rail, or bus rapid-transit. Today, we're solving that issue by increasing access to jobs and quality of life. For every project we select, however, we must turn dozens more away – projects that could be getting done if Congress passed the GROW AMERICA Act, which would double the funding available for TIGER and growing the number of projects we could support."

The TIGER funds will go toward final design and construction of 7.6 miles of new bus rapid transit service connecting Richmond to growing communities in Henrico County. The total project is expected to cost approximately $50 million. The project will include 14 stations and connect Richmond's central business district with Amtrak, the Greater Richmond Convention Center, the state capitol, and other government offices. The project will improve transportation speed, quality, and connectivity for 33,000 people and 77,000 area jobs within one half mile of project stations. The Broad Street Bus Rapid Transit project is expected to spur development along the corridor, revitalize vacant and underutilized areas of Richmond, and improve connections to 25 existing bus lines.

"We congratulate the citizens of Richmond and Henrico County, who are the true winners in obtaining these highly competitive TIGER grant funds," said Federal Transit Administration Acting Administrator Therese McMillan. "This project will improve access to efficient, reliable public transportation for thousands of transit-dependent area residents, while contributing to Richmond's future as a vibrant capital city."

The GROW AMERICA Act, the Administration's surface transportation reauthorization proposal, would authorize $5 billion over four years for much-needed additional TIGER funding to help meet the overwhelming demand for significant infrastructure investments around the country and provide the certainty that states and local governments need to properly plan for investment. The $302 billion, four year transportation reauthorization proposal would provide increased and stable funding for the nation's highways, bridges, transit, and rail systems without contributing to the deficit. The GROW AMERICA Act also includes several critical program reforms to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of federal highway, rail and transit programs.

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Since 2009, the TIGER program has provided nearly $4.1 billion to 342 projects in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Demand for the program has been overwhelming, and during the previous five rounds, the Department of Transportation received more than 6,000 applications requesting more than $124 billion for transportation projects across the country. Congress provided the most recent funding as part of the bipartisan Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014, signed by President Obama on January 17, 2014.

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###

U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Announces $14.9 Million in TIGER Funds for Omaha Bus Rapid Transit

Demand Demonstrates Need for Greater Transportation Investment through GROW AMERICA Act

9/15/2014
Contact: DOT Press Office
(202) 366-4570

OMAHA, Neb. – U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx was in Omaha today to announce a $14.9 million TIGER grant for the Transit Authority of the City of Omaha (known as Metro Area Transit) toward construction of a new bus rapid transit (BRT) system serving Central Omaha. The project is one of 72 transportation projects selected to receive a total of nearly $600 million in 46 states and the District of Columbia from the Department of Transportation's 2014 TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) Program, which Secretary Foxx announced on September 12.

"As uncertainty about the future of long-term federal funding continues, this round of TIGER will be a shot in the arm for these innovative, job-creating and quality of life-enhancing projects," said Secretary Foxx. "This TIGER investment will improve transit service on Omaha's busiest transit route, contributing to the economic redevelopment of the Midtown Crossing area, and creating thousands of jobs now and long into the future. For every project we select, however, we must turn dozens more away – projects that could be getting done if Congress passed the GROW AMERICA Act, which would double the funding available for TIGER and growing the number of projects we could support."

The TIGER funds go toward final design and construction of an 8-mile BRT system in Central Omaha, which is expected to cost approximately $30.6

million. The project will include 14 stations along a busy corridor that serve major retail outlets, the University of Nebraska at Omaha, three major medical complexes, Omaha's five Fortune 500 companies and the dense, mixed-use Midtown Crossing urban area. Once completed, the BRT line will intersect with nearly every route in Omaha's existing transit system, becoming the spine of a regional transit network. The route will serve many disadvantaged and economically distressed riders, who will benefit from an affordable, accessible connection to centers of employment, education and training. Roughly 16 percent of the households within a quarter of a mile of the proposed BRT route do not currently have access to a vehicle.

"We congratulate the citizens of Omaha, who are the true winners in obtaining these highly competitive TIGER grant funds," said Federal Transit Administration Acting Administrator Therese McMillan. "This project will improve access to efficient, reliable public transportation for thousands of area residents who depend on the bus to reach jobs, schools, medical care, and other important destinations."

The GROW AMERICA Act, the Administration's surface transportation reauthorization proposal, would authorize $5 billion over four years for much-needed additional TIGER funding to help meet the overwhelming demand for significant infrastructure investments around the country and provide the certainty that states and local governments need to properly plan for investment. The $302 billion, four-year transportation reauthorization proposal would provide increased and stable funding for the nation's highways, bridges, transit and rail systems without contributing to the deficit. The GROW AMERICA Act also includes several critical program reforms to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of federal highway, rail and transit programs.

The Department received 797 eligible applications from 49 states, U.S. territories and the District of Columbia, an increase from the 585 applications received in 2013. Overall, applicants requested 15 times the $600 million available for the program, or $9.5 billion for needed transportation projects.

Since 2009, the TIGER program has provided nearly $4.1 billion to 342 projects in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Demand for the program has been overwhelming, and during the previous five rounds, the Department of Transportation received more than 6,000 applications requesting more than $124 billion for transportation projects across the country. Congress provided the most recent funding as part of the bipartisan Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014, signed by President Obama on January 17, 2014.

Click here for additional information on individual TIGER grants.

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Click here for additional information on the GROW AMERICA Act.

###

U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Announces $12.2 Million in TIGER Funds for Detroit M-1 Rail Project

Demand Demonstrates Need for Greater Transportation Investment through GROW AMERICA Act

9/15/2014
Contact: DOT Press Office
(202) 366-4570

DETROIT, Mich. – U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx was in Detroit today to announce a $12.2 million TIGER grant for the City of Detroit towards construction of a 3.1-mile streetcar line that will help revitalize the city's historic Woodward Avenue corridor. The project is one of 72 transportation projects in 46 states and the District of Columbia selected to receive a total of nearly $600 million from the Department of Transportation's 2014 TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) Program, which Secretary Foxx announced on September 12.

"As uncertainty about the future of long-term federal funding continues, this round of TIGER will be a shot in the arm for these innovative, job-creating and quality of life-enhancing projects," said Secretary Foxx. "TIGER will connect a corridor that's home to 40 percent of all the jobs in Detroit – and attracts 15 million visitors year. It's a project that, simply put, will fire up the economic engine of the "Motor City." However, for every project we select, we must turn dozens more away – projects that could be getting done if Congress passed the GROW AMERICA Act, which would double the funding available for TIGER and growing the number of projects we could support."

The City of Detroit will receive $12.2 million in TIGER funds to help the M-1 Rail coalition to complete construction of the new streetcar line. The project

will connect the city's downtown business district to economic, cultural, and entertainment destinations along Woodward Avenue, spurring new development along the corridor and providing thousands of local residents with improved access to jobs, education, and other ladders of opportunity. M-1 Rail, a coalition of private-sector philanthropic and business leaders, has committed more than $88 million toward construction and operation of the $136 million project. The project received a $25 million TIGER grant in 2011.

"We congratulate the citizens of Detroit, who are the true winners in obtaining these highly competitive TIGER grant funds," said Federal Transit Administration Acting Administrator Therese McMillan. "The Woodward Avenue Streetcar line will improve access to efficient, reliable public transportation for thousands of area residents, while encouraging economic development and the revitalization of downtown Detroit."

The GROW AMERICA Act, the Administration's surface transportation reauthorization proposal, would authorize $5 billion over four years for much-needed additional TIGER funding to help meet the overwhelming demand for significant infrastructure investments around the country and provide the certainty that states and local governments need to properly plan for investment. The $302 billion, four-year transportation reauthorization proposal would provide increased and stable funding for the nation's highways, bridges, transit and rail systems without contributing to the deficit. The GROW AMERICA Act also includes several critical program reforms to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of federal highway, rail and transit programs.

The Department received 797 eligible applications from 49 states, U.S. territories and the District of Columbia, an increase from the 585 applications received in 2013. Overall, applicants requested 15 times the $600 million available for the program, or $9.5 billion for needed transportation projects.

Since 2009, the TIGER program has provided nearly $4.1 billion to 342 projects in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Demand for the program has been overwhelming, and during the previous five rounds, the Department of Transportation received more than 6,000 applications requesting more than $124 billion for transportation projects across the country. Congress provided the most recent funding as part of the bipartisan Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014, signed by President Obama on January 17, 2014.

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###

Transportation Secretary Foxx Announces Nearly $3.6 Billion to Make Transit Systems More Resilient in New York, New Jersey, and Beyond

Disaster Relief Funds Will Rebuild Public Transportation Systems Affected by Hurricane Sandy Stronger than Before

9/22/2014
Contact: Amy Bernstein
202-366-0706

NEW YORK, NY—U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx today announced that 40 projects have been competitively selected to receive a share of $3.59 billion in federal disaster relief funds to help public transportation systems in the areas affected by Hurricane Sandy to become more resilient, in order to withstand the impact of future natural disasters. Approximately 90 percent of the funds will be invested in resilience projects primarily in New York and New Jersey, where transit systems sustained the worst of the storm damage, with the remainder going towards projects in Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Pennsylvania. A list of all funded resilience projects is available at http://www.fta.dot.gov/15138_16147.html.

"We've made great progress rebuilding critical transit connections since Hurricane Sandy, and we want to make sure no one pays for these repairs twice," said Secretary Foxx. "While no one can predict the future with certainty, we believe these investments will help to harden transit facilities

against future storms that Mother Nature dishes out, supporting President Obama's call to address climate change now and reducing the risk of service disruptions and future damage to some of the nation's busiest rail and bus services.

Secretary Foxx made today's announcement at Peter Minuit Plaza, between the South Ferry transit station and the Staten Island Ferry landing. He was joined by White House Counselor John Podesta, U.S. Congressman Joseph Crowley, U.S. Congressman Gregory Meeks, U.S. Congressman Grace Meng, U.S. Congressman Jerrold Nadler, and New York City Department of Transportation Commissioner Polly Trottenberg. System-wide resilience projects that will benefit future South Ferry subway riders include sealing street-level vents and manholes and protecting underground pump rooms, circuit breaker houses and other underground facilities that deliver power to the South Ferry subway station and other facilities. Grant funds also will enable the purchase of two new Staten Island ferries capable of withstanding adverse storm and climate change conditions.

"Over the last two years, the Federal Transit Administration has delivered on its promises to provide emergency relief funds as quickly and responsibly as possible, to help transit agencies in the Northeast recover from the worst transit-related disaster in U.S. history," said Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Acting Administrator Therese McMillan. "As we have said since the day Hurricane Sandy made landfall nearly two years ago, we share an obligation not only to fully restore transportation systems that millions of riders depend on from New England to New York to D.C., but also to ensure that we can do an even better job of protecting these vulnerable assets in the face of future natural disasters."

In general, the projects selected for resilience funding were required to demonstrate that they would reduce the risk of damage to public transportation assets inflicted by future natural disasters. Emphasis was placed on a project's ability to protect the most essential and vulnerable infrastructure, as well as effective collaboration and coordination among local and regional governments. The project evaluation process was rigorous, involving specialists from the FTA, the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Railroad Administration, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. FTA received 61 proposals seeking a total of $6.6 billion.

Examples of resilience projects receiving funds include:

- The New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) will receive approximately $1.6 billion to make flood protections at multiple street-level openings throughout the subway system, rail yards, substations, critical support facilities and underground

equipment; tunnel portals used by the Long Island Railroad and Amtrak; and Rockaway Line stations; upgrade an emergency management communication system; flood proof communications and signal rooms at key subway stations; upgrade water pumping capacity; and flood proof four bus depots.

- New Jersey Transit will receive approximately $1.3 billion to reduce the risk of flooding to Hoboken rail yard and the city by filling a deteriorated inlet inside the rail yard; construct a rail storage and re-inspection facility located outside the floodplain that could be used to safely store vehicles in an emergency; and replace the aged and deteriorated Raritan River Drawbridge damaged by Hurricane Sandy with a new bridge that is less vulnerable to storm surge and flooding.
- The Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) will receive approximately $86.7 million to build an alternate system control center to ensure continuity of operations in case a major storm knocks out the system's central control facility; stabilize the slopes of several commuter railroad embankments to reduce the risk of rockfall or landslides after severe rainfall; and improve flood protection to protect commuter rail lines.
- The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) will receive approximately $35 million to raise a retaining wall and install watertight barriers at MBTA's Green Line Fenway Portal to reduce flooding; and repair and improve a deteriorated seawall.

The Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 provided $10.9 billion for FTA's Emergency Relief Program for recovery, relief, and resiliency efforts in areas affected by Hurricane Sandy. That total was subsequently cut by almost $545 million due to sequestration. FTA is allocating the remaining $10.4 billion in multiple tiers for response, recovery, and rebuilding; for locally prioritized resiliency projects; and for competitively selected resiliency work. To date, FTA has allocated nearly $9.3 billion of the total funds appropriated—roughly $5.7 billion for initial and ongoing recovery work and $3.6 billion for the larger resilience projects announced today.

###

U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Announces $100 Million in Grants to Connect More Americans with Jobs, Ladders of Opportunity

Detroit to Receive Over $25 Million to Improve Access to Transit for Residents in Greatest Need

9/25/2014
Contact: Amy Bernstein
202-366-0706

DETROIT – U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx announced today $100 million in competitive grants to 24 recipients in 19 states to significantly improve bus service and bus facilities in urban and rural communities where residents depend heavily on public transportation. The grants are provided through the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Ladders of Opportunity Initiative, which supports the modernization and expansion of transit bus service across the nation, with the purpose of connecting disadvantaged and low-income populations—including veterans, seniors, and youths—with centers of education, employment, job training, health care, and other vital services. A list of all funded projects is available at http://www.fta.dot.gov/grants/15926_16153.html.

"Transportation is about more than getting from one point to another--it's about getting from where you are to a better life," said Secretary Foxx. "The Ladders of Opportunity grants will help communities to offer better

access to jobs and schools and allow citizens to gain the life skills they need to achieve their goals.

Secretary Foxx made today's announcement at Cass Technical High School in Detroit. He was joined by Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan, FTA Acting Administrator Therese McMillan and state and local officials. Secretary Foxx was one of several Cabinet secretaries who met in Detroit in September 2013 to discuss what they could do to support Detroit revitalization efforts. Since the Secretary's visit, the U.S. Department of Transportation has provided approximately $24 million to repair and rehabilitate buses and install security cameras to protect passengers and drivers, more than $37 million in TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) grants to the M1 RAIL/Woodward Avenue Streetcar project and $6.4 million to assist the newly created Regional Transit Authority implement a regional bus rapid transit system.

"More Americans travel by bus than any other form of transit—and nearly half of the buses that people depend on in the United States are in marginal or poor condition," said FTA Acting Administrator McMillan. "These grants will give a much-needed boost to communities around the country whose residents need and deserve safe, reliable bus service to access jobs and other important opportunities to provide for their families and achieve a better quality of life."

FTA's Ladders of Opportunity Initiative proved to be one of the most over-subscribed discretionary grant programs in the agency's history. FTA received 446 project proposals from 282 applicants requesting a total of approximately $1.4 billion—14 times the available funding. This highly competitive response reflects tremendous demand for modern buses and bus facilities in communities across the United States. Priority was given to projects that provide ready access to work for individuals lacking reliable transportation, especially in low-income and under-served neighborhoods; projects connecting to universities, hospitals or other places that can lead to improved quality of life; and projects based on effective partnerships with local governments, businesses, and non-profits.

The President's GROW AMERICA Act reauthorization proposal would increase funding for transit buses and bus facilities by over 350 percent between FY2014 and FY2015, to help address additional unmet transportation needs across the country, including provisions for discretionary grants.

Among the projects selected nationwide:

- Detroit will receive $25.9 million to purchase up to 50 new hybrid and clean diesel buses that will ease overcrowding, reduce wait times, and

provide more accessible and reliable service for a highly transit-dependent population where 60 percent of residents do not have access to a car, and 35 percent live below the poverty line. The new buses will provide riders with essential links to jobs, education, training and other opportunities throughout Detroit, including vital connections to the Central Business District. The clean-fuel buses will replace aging vehicles that have been plagued by maintenance issues, resulting in better on-time service, as well as reduced carbon emissions.

- San Francisco will receive approximately $9 million to help the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) to expand its Muni bus service by adding up to 12 motor coaches to targeted lines across San Francisco. Improved bus service will help ease overcrowding and facilitate transit access in some of the city's highest need areas.
- Denver will receive $5 million to link Denver's bus system with nearby Aurora, Colorado, connecting residents of an economically diverse corridor with a variety of education and employment opportunities. This project incorporates Denver's Workforce Initiative Now! program to deliver training, education, and job services.
- Oklahoma will receive almost $4.1 million to replace aging vehicles in 10 transit systems across rural parts of the state, expanding economic opportunities in a region where 78 percent of rural workers face commute times of an hour or more.
- Two grants totaling $260,570 will establish new transit systems on Native American reservations. These projects will afford much-needed transportation options to tribal residents who often lack access to employment, health care, and other essentials. Recipients are the Sac and Fox Nation, which borders Kansas and Nebraska, and the Muckleshoot Reservation in Washington State, near Seattle, Wash.

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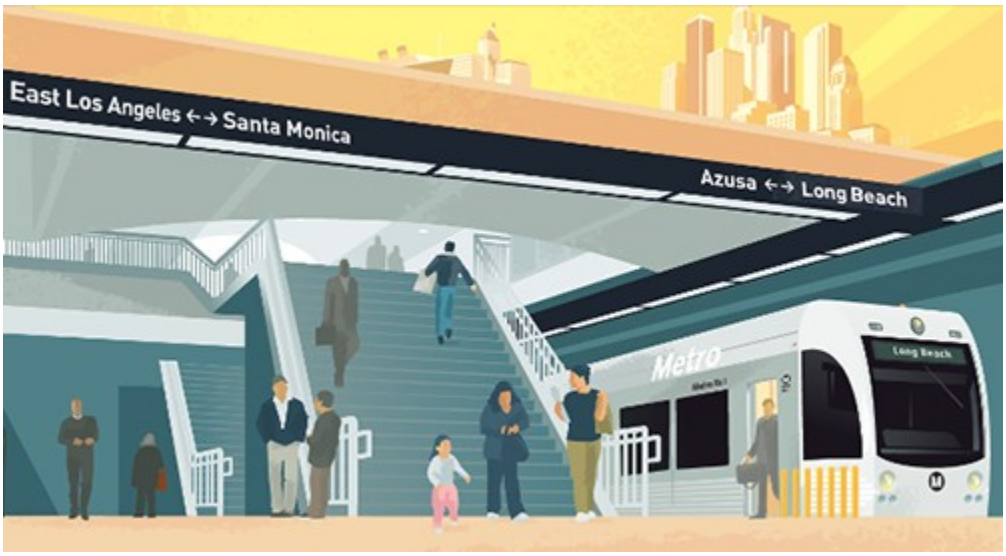
U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Groundbreaking of Los Angeles Regional Connector, Improving Transit Efficiency

LA also awarded $1.7 million Ladders of Opportunity grant to enhance bus facilities



9/30/2014
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LOS ANGELES – U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx today participated in the groundbreaking of the Los Angeles Regional Connector, a key light rail transit segment connecting three existing transit lines in the heart of downtown Los Angeles.

The two-mile rail segment will offer thousands of area residents more efficient and convenient access to jobs, education, and other ladders of opportunity. Secretary Foxx was joined at the event by Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and other state and local officials.

"Transportation is about more than getting from one point to another–it's about getting from where you are to a better life," said Secretary Foxx. "Today's milestone is one to celebrate, but we need to do more to deliver these projects more quickly and efficiently, and the one thousand combined federal, state and local permits to get the light rail from ground breaking to ribbon cutting is simply too much. The GROW AMERICA

Act would help reduce that burden by streamlining portions of that process.�

The Administration�s GROW AMERICA Act is a $302 billion, four year transportation plan that is fully paid for without adding to the deficit. The GROW AMERICA Act also would cut red tape and speed project delivery.

According to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA), in order to build and run the Regional Connector, the project sponsor and contractors will have to apply for approximately one thousand permits�federal, state, and local combined. Complex projects like the Regional Connector often require multiple agencies to review them.

GROW AMERICA would simplify and speed up this process by ensuring that federal agencies work together sooner, coordinate their reviews, and cut red tape. And it would make permitting more transparent so that federal agencies are held accountable for their progress. The bill also would help state transportation agencies use federal funds to hire dedicated staff to help speed environmental reviews.

The LACMTA has begun work on the underground connection between the existing Metro Gold line in Little Tokyo and the Exposition and Blue light rail lines, which currently terminate at Flower and 7th Streets. The project also includes four new light rail vehicles to augment the existing fleet. The project will reconfigure Metro�s three existing LRT lines into two lines, one primarily running north to south, and one east to west. The project reconfiguration will eliminate the need for riders to make cumbersome transfers from light rail to the Metro Red or Purple Line subway system, and then back onto light rail, to reach their destinations.

�With just two miles of added light rail in downtown Los Angeles, it will become possible to offer a one-seat ride across the county, and the new stations will make transit easier to get to for people living in the surrounding neighborhoods,� said FTA Acting Administrator Therese McMillan. �The President�s GROW AMERICA Act would enable us to invest in more good projects like this one�putting jobs, education, and healthcare within reach of more Americans.�

LACMTA estimates the Regional Connector will open in 2020 and initially handle roughly 60,000 trips or more each weekday. The $1.4 billion project received a $670 million full funding grant agreement through FTA�s Capital Investment Grant (New Starts) Program, as well as a loan of up to $160 million from the U.S. Department of Transportation�s (DOT) Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) loan program, and $64 million in other DOT funds. The remainder of project will be funded with state and local resources.

Secretary Foxx also announced today that LACMTA is receiving a $1.7 million grant from FTA's Ladders of Opportunity Initiative. The grant will allow the agency to improve four bus stops on Cesar Chavez Avenue next to Los Angeles Union Station, repair broken sidewalks that provide access to them, and install new bike parking and bike share stations. More than 80 percent of the people who frequently use those stops lack access to a car, and 90 percent of them either walk or bike to the bus stops, according to LACMTA. The improved transit access will also help construction workers building the Regional Connector who take transit to reach their worksite.

LACMTA is one of 24 recipients competitively selected through this initiative to help public transportation systems modernize and expand transit bus service specifically for the purpose of connecting disadvantaged and low-income individuals, veterans, seniors, youths and others with jobs, employment centers, local workforce training, health care and other services.

LACMTA also was awarded two TIGER (Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery) grants totaling $22.05 million to modernize the busy Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Station on the Blue Line and improve bicycle and pedestrian access in Little Tokyo. The GROW AMERICA Act would authorize $5 billion over four years for much-needed additional TIGER funding to help meet the overwhelming demand for significant infrastructure investments around the country and provide the certainty that states and local governments need to properly plan for investment.

FTA is advancing two other major transit expansion projects in the Los Angeles metropolitan area: the Crenshaw/LAX light rail transit corridor project and Section I of the Westside Purple Line Extension. The $2 billion Crenshaw project, which broke ground in January, is funded in part with a $545.9 million TIFIA loan and approximately $130 million in other FTA and DOT funds. DOT has approved a TIFIA loan of up to $856 million for the Westside project, which is also received funding through FTA's Capital Investment Grant Program in May of 2014.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Opening of New Transit Center, Improving Transit Options in Rochester

10/20/2014
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ROCHESTER, N.Y. – The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today celebrated the opening of the RTS Transit Center, a new transit hub in the heart of Rochester, NY that will greatly improve transit service for thousands of daily bus riders and help spur downtown development. Therese McMillan was joined by Lieutenant Governor Robert Duffy and other state and local officials at a ribbon-cutting event.

"The RTS Transit Center will transform the experience for commuters heading to downtown Rochester," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "Projects like this are critical for continued, sustainable economic growth, which is why it is so important for Congress to support our GROW AMERICA Act to provide long-term funding for transit systems, roads and bridges nationwide."

If Congress passes the GROW AMERICA Act, State of New York transit agencies will receive approximately $107 million in Bus and Bus Facilities Program funding in FY 2015. This funding, used to improve bus service and infrastructure, represents an increase of $73 million over the amount provided in FY 2014.

The RTS Transit Center will span a full city block on Mortimer Street in downtown Rochester. Instead of waiting outdoors along Main Street, riders will access 26 new bus bays from a spacious, modern, climate-controlled facility. Getting to the right bus will be easier than ever, thanks to customer-friendly features such as electronic departure signs, an information center, around-the-clock security, and enhanced accessibility for seniors and riders with disabilities.

"More than 60,000 customers depend on RTS every day, and this new facility will offer safer, more convenient access to jobs, education and other important opportunities throughout Monroe County and beyond," said Acting Administrator McMillan. "Whether the destination is Rochester's revitalized downtown or a key regional institution, the RTS Transit Center will make it easier than ever for riders to connect to numerous destinations throughout the region."

As a regional transit hub expected to serve over 20,000 riders daily, the RTS Transit Center will connect residents of the eight county RTS service area to important destinations such as the University of Rochester, Rochester Institute of Technology, Monroe Community College, the Museum District, and a variety of options for shopping and dining. RTS will operate 42 bus lines using a fleet of 350 vehicles through the Transit Center, improving traffic flow throughout downtown and opening up valuable space on Main Street for development.

The RTS Transit Center is scheduled to begin service in late November, five months ahead of schedule. The U.S. Department of Transportation contributed nearly $40 million toward the $50 million project, with the remaining cost shared between the State of New York and the Rochester Genesee Regional Transportation Authority.

###

Acting Federal Transit Administrator McMillan Attends Groundbreaking of L.A. Purple Line Extension

11/7/2014
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LOS ANGELES – The U.S Department of Transportation's Acting Federal Transit Administrator (FTA) Therese McMillan today participated in the groundbreaking of the 3.9-mile Westside Purple Line Section 1 Extension that will expand transit options in one of the most congested corridors in Los Angeles County. Acting Administrator McMillan was joined by Senator Dianne Feinstein, Rep. Henry Waxman, Rep. Karen Bass, Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, and other local officials.

"Today, Los Angeles takes another step forward in its efforts to improve public transportation, provide better opportunities to area residents, and reduce gridlock," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "Congress needs to pass the GROW AMERICA Act so that towns, cities, and rural areas all over the country can enjoy the benefits of much-needed investments in transit, roads, and bridges."

If Congress were to pass the GROW AMERICA Act, California transit agencies would receive nearly $2.0 billion in federal formula transportation funds in FY 2015. The funding level included in the reauthorization proposal and President's FY 2015 budget represents a $700 million increase over the amount provided in FY 2014. The 57 percent increase would help Los

Angeles and the state as a whole to carry out much needed capital transit improvements and enhancements.

The Westside Purple Line Section 1 Extension – the first of three planned extensions of the Metro Purple Line subway – is expected to improve travel times and transit capacity from Beverly Hills to downtown Los Angeles, North Hollywood, Union Station, and other Los Angeles County communities. The project includes three new underground stations and the purchase of 34 new heavy rail vehicles to augment the existing fleet. The project's sponsor, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA), estimates that project construction will create more than 22,000 jobs. The extension is expected to open in 2024 and provide more than 20,000 trips daily.

"The Purple Line extension will help the people of Los Angeles reach jobs and housing along Wilshire Boulevard and beyond, improving access to one of the most congested areas in the region," said FTA Acting Administrator McMillan. "Expanding the capacity of L.A. County's transit system is critical for supporting population growth and economic development for decades to come."

LACMTA will receive $2.1 billion in federal grants and loan agreements toward the estimated $2.8 billion Westside Purple Line Extension project. The federal funding includes $1.25 billion in construction grant funds from FTA's Capital Investment Grant Program (New Starts); $856 million from the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) loan program; and $12.2 million in other DOT and FTA funds. The remainder will be funded by state and local sources.

FTA is advancing two other major transit expansion projects in the Los Angeles metropolitan area: the $1.4 billion Regional Connector linking the Blue, Gold, and Exposition light rail lines in downtown Los Angeles, which was approved for a $670 million FTA construction grant agreement, $64 million in other FTA funds, and a $160 million TIFIA loan in February; and the $2.1 billion Crenshaw/LAX light rail transit corridor project, which broke ground in January, and is funded in part with a $545.9 million TIFIA loan and approximately $117 million in other FTA and DOT funds.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Announces $81 Million to Bring Bus Rapid Transit Service to East Bay Area

United States Of America
Department of Transportation • Federal Transit Administration
AC TRANSIT
East Bay Bus Rapid Transit
Small Starts Grant Agreement

11/8/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
202-366-3669

OAKLAND, Calif. – The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today announced the award of $81 million in federal grant funds for the East Bay Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project, which will provide faster, more reliable bus service along one of the Bay Area's most densely populated and transit-dependent corridors. FTA Acting Administrator Therese McMillan participated in a ceremony to commit the funds with U.S. Representative Barbara Lee, representatives from the Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District (AC Transit) and other local officials.

"Communities around the country are looking for smart, creative transportation solutions like the East Bay Bus Rapid Transit line to better manage traffic congestion and offer residents a reliable, convenient transit option for getting to work, school and other opportunities," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "We're calling on Congress to support our GROW AMERICA Act to provide long-term funding for more projects like this one to strengthen our nation's transportation infrastructure."

The 9.5-mile BRT line will provide fast, frequent bus service between downtown Oakland and the San Leandro Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART)

station, operating primarily along International Boulevard, one of the East Bay's most diverse corridors. In addition to greatly enhancing transit service, the BRT line is expected to attract new transit oriented development and help revitalize neighborhoods along the corridor.

"The Federal Transit Administration is proud to partner with AC Transit to bring bus rapid transit service to the East Bay Area, improving access to jobs in downtown Oakland and making it easier for riders to connect to BART and other transportation services," said FTA Acting Administrator McMillan. "This new BRT line will make a huge difference for thousands of commuters who need and deserve reliable transit service."

AC Transit estimates the new BRT line will provide approximately 27,000 weekday trips when the line opens in 2017. The project will include 7.4 miles of dedicated bus lanes " about 78 percent of the route " to speed service, as well as 34 new bus stations with real-time arrival information, level boarding platforms and ticket vending machines.

The U.S. Department of Transportation is contributing approximately $81 million toward the $174 million total cost of the East Bay BRT project, including $50 million from FTA's Capital Investment Grant Program, $25 million in FTA Bus and Bus Facilities funds, and $6 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funds. The remaining cost will be covered by state and local funding sources.

Under the Administration's GROW AMERICA Act, California transit agencies would receive nearly $2.0 billion in federal formula transportation funds in FY 2015. The funding level included in the reauthorization proposal and President's FY 2015 budget represents a $700 million increase over the amount provided in FY 2014. The 57 percent increase would help the Bay Area, and the state as a whole, carry out much needed capital transit improvements and enhancements.

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U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Opening of Landmark Fulton Center Transit Station in Lower Manhattan

11/9/2014
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NEW YORK – Acting Federal Transit Administrator Therese McMillan today celebrated the grand opening of the new Fulton Center Transit Station – one of several major Lower Manhattan public transportation projects intended to repair, replace, or enhance facilities damaged or destroyed on September 11, 2001. Fulton Center is integral to the redevelopment and modernization of public transportation in Lower Manhattan, which has experienced significant residential population growth in recent years. McMillan was joined at the event by Rep. Jerrold Nadler, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, MTA Chairman Thomas Prendergast, and other state and local officials.

"The new Fulton Center facility sends a clear message that the United States is committed to building transportation infrastructure that will move our country's economy forward," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "We're proud to celebrate this milestone – but we must do more. We are committed to working with Congress to find bipartisan solutions that will help New York continue to revitalize its infrastructure in the years ahead."

Fulton Center will provide more direct access, easier connections, and many more available entrances to reach 10 New York City subway lines (A, C, E, J, Z, R, 2, 3, 4, and 5). The facility also provides an underground passageway to reach the newly built World Trade Center PATH station. The new hub includes new retail space and is fully ADA-compliant. An iconic architectural feature, an oculus, serves as the principal gateway to the facility.

"This is a great day for New York, as we celebrate the opening of the second largest transportation project in Lower Manhattan in the post-9/11 era," said Acting Federal Transit Administrator Therese McMillan. "The future of New York as a sustainable, livable city, and vibrant economic center, largely depends on our ability to build and maintain a modern, regional transportation network that works for everyone " and this is an important step toward that goal."

The Federal Transit Administration provided $847 million toward the $1.4 billion Fulton Center project. The project also includes $423.3 million in American Recovery & Reinvestment Act funds and $129.7 million in local funds. Other major Lower Manhattan transit projects receiving federal funds from FTA include the World Trade Center PATH Hub project and the Route 9A reconstruction, both under construction, as well as the rebuilding of the South Ferry Station (completed in 2007 but destroyed by Hurricane Sandy).
If Congress were to pass the GROW AMERICA Act, New York State transit agencies would receive approximately $2.4 billion in federal formula transportation funds in FY 2015. The funding level included in the reauthorization proposal and President's FY 2015 budget is almost $1.1 billion over the amount provided in FY 2014. The additional funding would help New York City and New York state carry out capital transit improvements and enhancements.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates Groundbreaking of First Bus Rapid Transit System in Jacksonville

11/17/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
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JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx today participated in a groundbreaking for a new bus rapid transit (BRT) system that will improve transit options in the greater Jacksonville area and offer faster, more convenient access to downtown. Secretary Foxx was joined by Jacksonville Mayor Alvin Brown, Acting Federal Transit Administrator Therese McMillan, representatives from the Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA), and other state and local officials.

"Bringing bus rapid transit to this community will connect residents to work, education and other opportunities while making it easier than ever for residents to access downtown Jacksonville and beyond," said Secretary Foxx. "We're proud to celebrate this milestone – but we must do more. We are committed to working with Congress to find bipartisan solutions that will help Jacksonville and other communities continue to invest in and enhance their transportation infrastructure in the years ahead."

The First Coast Flyer BRT Downtown Project, nearly six miles long with 12 stations, is the initial segment of a five-phased BRT system planned for the Jacksonville region. The new service will operate in dedicated lanes during peak hours for a portion of the route. The BRT project offers riders an

alternative to congested roads, and a faster commute to such downtown employers as Baptist Hospital, Suddath Relocation Systems, and the new Duval County Courthouse, as well as to businesses in the Riverplace Tower and the Prudential building.

"As Jacksonville's population continues to grow, it's clear that more good transportation options will help this city plan effectively for the future," said Acting Federal Transit Administrator McMillan. "This new BRT service offers commuters a more efficient ride, while spurring new economic development and opportunities along the corridor."

The initial downtown BRT line costs $13.4 million, with $9.3 million provided by FTA. JTA and the Florida Department of Transportation provided the remaining funds.

JTA is seeking federal funds for the next two planned BRT segments—the 9.4-mile North corridor and the 11.1-mile Southeast corridor. Both projects are advancing through FTA's Capital Investment Grant Program. JTA estimates that the entire BRT system will cover 55 miles and cost approximately $132.3 million.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Announces Voluntary Examination of the Safety of Chicago Transit Authority Operations

11/21/2014
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202-366-0842

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announced today that it is conducting a voluntary safety examination of the Chicago Transit Authority's (CTA) rail and bus transit system. This is in response to the CTA's formal request for safety collaboration earlier this year. The purpose of the examination is to help CTA assess the strengths and weaknesses of the safety of operations and identify areas where the agency can further reduce risks and make other safety improvements. This is the first safety examination FTA has undertaken in keeping with its new safety regulatory authority under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21). Additional information on the implementation of FTA's safety program is available here.

"Safety is our highest priority and we are committed to working with our transportation partners nationwide to ensure that safety operations receive the attention they require," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "We will continue to work closely with the CTA to make sure that they receive the greatest benefits from this assessment."

The safety examination is an opportunity for CTA to test the effectiveness of a Safety Management System (SMS) approach and gather critical data to establish the agency's safety risk profile. FTA has formally adopted SMS, which is widely used in other transportation industries, to support comprehensive programs and performance as a means of implementing its new safety regulatory provisions. SMS focuses on organization-wide safety policy, proactive hazard management, strong safety communication between workers and management, targeted safety training, and clear responsibilities for critical safety activities. More information on SMS is available here.

"In light of two high-profile collisions that occurred on CTA property within the past year, we believe this is an appropriate time to work with CTA to conduct a comprehensive safety examination of its transit system," said FTA Acting Administrator Therese McMillan. "As the FTA implements our new safety authority, we remain committed to fostering sound policy and a strong safety culture at every transit system."

The safety examination, scheduled to begin December 1 in Chicago, will entail three major activities that will help develop an SMS approach:

- An SMS gap analysis, including SMS training across several levels of CTA and a safety culture assessment survey for front-line personnel and supervisors;
- A rail safety assessment, whereby FTA will conduct an evaluation of CTA's rail operations and maintenance programs to acquire the safety information and data needed to support meaningful analysis of safety risks; and
- A bus safety assessment, conducted in a similar manner to the rail safety assessment.

Early next year, FTA and CTA will summarize the results of this assessment and develop a roadmap to help CTA build a mature and effective SMS process.

###

U.S. Department of Transportation Announces $5 Million to Improve Transit Options for American Indians, Alaska Natives on Tribal Lands

12/9/2014
Contact: Angela Gates
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WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today announced the availability of $5 million in competitive grant funds to enhance public transit service for American Indians, Alaska natives and other residents on rural tribal lands. Funding is provided through FTA's Public Transportation on Indian Reservations Tribal Transit Program. A Notice of Funding Availability appears in today's Federal Register (PDF).

"The Obama Administration is proud to partner with tribal governments throughout the United States to better connect tribal residents with jobs, education and other important ladders of opportunity," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "For many tribal members who live in remote areas and rely heavily on public transportation, this funding will help ensure continued access to vital services they need."

Through FTA's Tribal Transit Program, competitively awarded FY2014 funds will allow tribes to continue operating or enhance existing transit service, launch new public transportation services, invest in new or replacement equipment, or plan for future transit needs. In FY2013, FTA

funded 48 projects in 19 states totaling $5.04 million in discretionary grant funds to support public transportation services for tribal communities.

“We fully recognize that residents on tribal lands and in surrounding communities often face significant transportation challenges, as many cannot afford to own a vehicle, or fill the tank, and yet must travel long distances to reach basic services,” said FTA Acting Administrator Therese McMillan. “We want to ensure that everyone who needs a ride to earn a paycheck, attend school, see the doctor, or buy groceries has that opportunity.”

Under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) Act, FTA’s Tribal Transit Program roughly doubled the amount of available funding from amounts awarded in prior years, but changed from an entirely discretionary program to a mostly formula-based one. FTA has provided approximately $50 million in FY2013 and FY2014 formula funds to 110 tribal transit programs in 26 states to help tribes continue to provide and enhance the transit services that many rural residents depend on every day.

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U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Announces $598 Million in Additional Loans for Phase Two Silver Line to Dulles

12/17/2014
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202-366-4570

WASHINGTON – U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx today announced the closing of a $403 million Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) loan for Fairfax County and a $195 million TIFIA loan for Loudoun County to fund construction of Phase Two of the Metrorail Silver Line extension. When combined with the $1.278 billion TIFIA loan to the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) that closed in August, the U.S. Department of Transportation has provided $1.87 billion in TIFIA loans to support the construction of Phase Two, which represents the largest TIFIA assistance for a single project in the program's history.

Work has begun at the Wiehle-Reston East Metrorail Station, where Phase One work ended, and includes construction of 11.4 miles of track from Wiehle Avenue to Route 772 in eastern Loudoun County. Six new stations will also be constructed along the way – Reston Town Center, Herndon, Innovation Center, Washington Dulles International Airport, Route 606 and Route 772, and a new Service and Inspection Yard at Dulles International.

"The first phase of the Silver Line has been an overwhelming success, and we look forward to ensuring the second half is just as successful, with the

help of these additional loans from the federal government,” said Secretary Foxx. “When complete, the Silver Line will help residents and visitors get where they need to go safely, quickly and affordably. It’s the kind of project we’d like to see more of, and one way to do that is if Congress will support our GROW AMERICA Act to provide long-term funding for transit systems, roads and bridges nationwide.”

Secretary Foxx joined other U.S. Department of Transportation officials along with state and local elected leaders in July to celebrate the opening of the first phase of the Silver Line, which represented the largest expansion of Metrorail service in 20 years. The first phase extended Metrorail service from the East Falls Church Metrorail station through the large Tysons Corner employment and retail center to the Wiehle-Reston East Metrorail station in the Reston area of Fairfax County. Metro announced that during its first week of service alone, nearly 220,000 trips were taken.

The Silver Line is being constructed by MWAA and operated by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). The new line is expected to serve approximately 85,700 daily riders by 2030.

“This project is the result of a true partnership and collaboration between Loudon, Fairfax, MWAA, VA DOT and US DOT to invest in big things and build the infrastructure our country needs now and in the future,” said Sylvia Garcia, Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs.

The Obama Administration’s GROW AMERICA Act is a $302 billion, four-year national vision for an aging transportation network and a growing population. The GROW AMERICA Act would invest $72 billion in public transportation alone to address the urgent transit challenges facing urban, suburban and rural communities, in addition to providing $4 billion for TIFIA that can support approximately $40 billion in innovative financial assistance for infrastructure projects.

The TIFIA credit program is designed to fill market gaps and leverage substantial non-federal investments. Each dollar of federal funding can provide up to $10 in TIFIA credit assistance and support up to $30 in transportation infrastructure investment. Since its launch, the TIFIA program has helped 47 projects turn almost $20 billion in U.S. Department of Transportation assistance into nearly $72 billion in infrastructure investment across America.

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